

Stamp Collector's Challenge

By Clyde Earl Bowman III
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Stamp Collector's Challenge

What a joy collecting stamps can be. Small flecks of paper. Sometimes worth thousands of times their weight in gold. Beautiful artwork. Rich history. Cultural awareness. Much can be learned from them. Throughout history men, women and children from all social aspects have collected stamps. It matters not who you are or what your monetary status is, there are stamps available for everyone's budget.

As you are reading this, place yourself into one of the following three categories;

*A **beginner**. You don't know a thing about stamp collecting, but you do have an interest in it.*

*An **intermediate** collector. You've been at it for a while and have your very own method of collecting.*

***Advanced** collector. You have really enjoyed the hobby throughout your life. You're just looking for a challenge. This is it!*

*If you are a **BEGINNER** you will find the following pages of this, your new album, a wonderful primer for the art of philately. It will teach you all the vocabulary that is inherent of the hobby of stamp collecting. It will also provide you an incredible adventure of fun and relaxation.*

Getting wrapped up in this hobby - you'll find time truly flies!

*As an **intermediate** you will find that there are indeed things you didn't know about philately. What is a "bisect?" How is the word "granite" used? What is a "serrated roulette?" After completing this small album you'll know what these are. You will also have found an interesting way to collect that you may have never thought of before.*

*Finally you, the **advanced** collector, may be in for a big surprise. Filling this album may be a challenge that YOU can NOT complete. Look it over. Do you think you can find all the examples? Consider yourself challenged!*

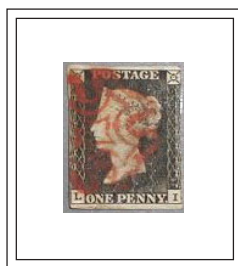
Well in closing let me say this final word. I've been collecting for over 30 years and can't wait to get my own album started. Now I'm off for my tongs and hinges. (Beginners: you will need a pair of tongs to handle the stamps and some hinges to mount them in this album.

You can either mail order these items, or get them from you local dealer.)

Our first challenge. . .find this
stamp

GREAT BRITAIN

Here is the first stamp ever
Black." It was designed/
Sir. Rowland Hill. It was
Britain. As of this date (10/14/
internet auctions ranges from
Mint respectively. Best of luck

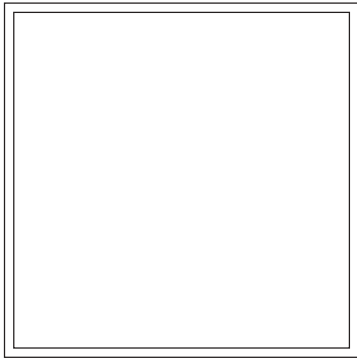


Scott #1

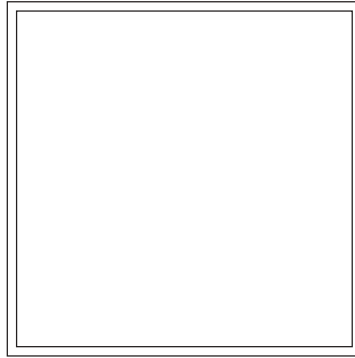
made. It is called the "Penny
invented by a gentleman named
issued on May 6, 1840 in Great
99) the price of this stamp on
\$5.00 to over \$100.00. Used and
finding this one.

It wasn't long after the "Penny Black" that quite a few countries started creating their own stamps. In fact, not only were countries making stamps for regular mail, but they were making special stamps for special purposes. The following are some of these different types with their prefixes created by a company called "Scotts Publishing." These prefixes help us with categorizing.

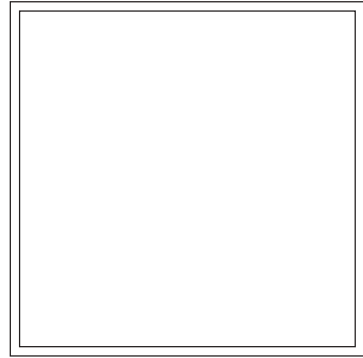
GROUP I REGULAR FIRST CLASS MAIL



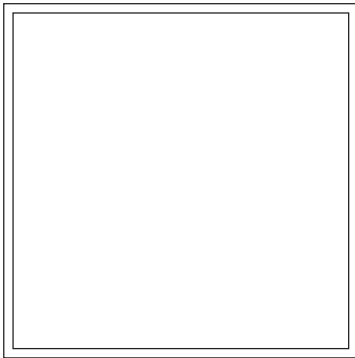
B: SEMI-POSTAL



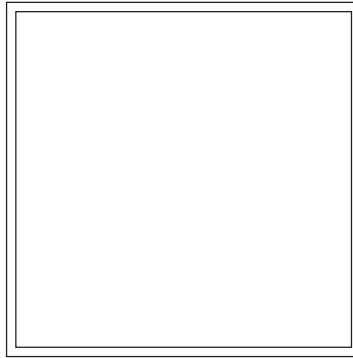
C: AIR POST



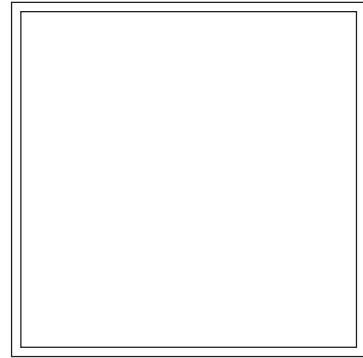
CB: SEMI-POSTAL AIR MAIL



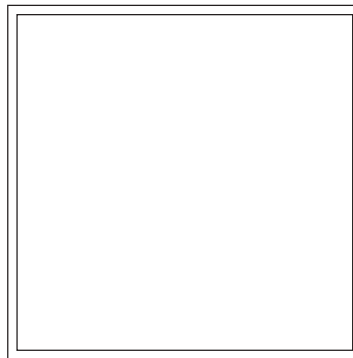
CE: AIR POST SPECIAL
DELIVERY



E: SPECIAL DELIVERY

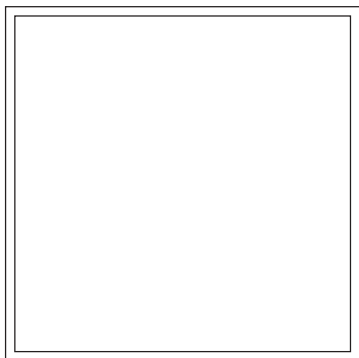


F: REGISTRATION

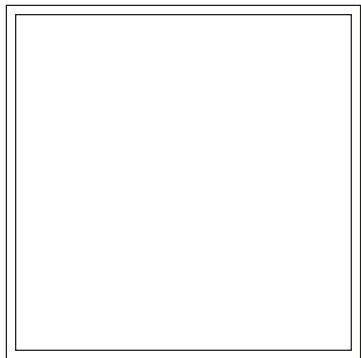


J: POSTAGE DUE

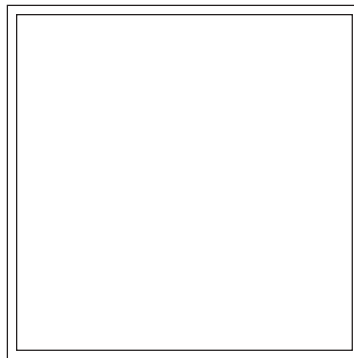
GROUP II
FIRST CLASS MAIL, LIMITED IN USE



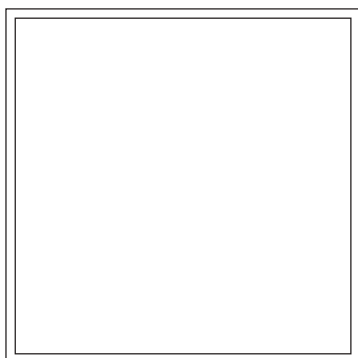
K: OFFICES
ABROAD



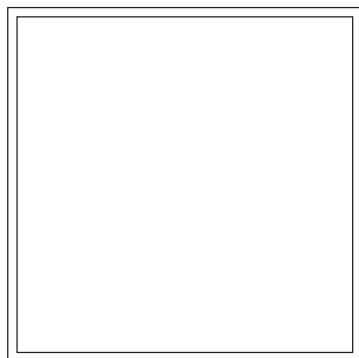
M: MILITARY
POST



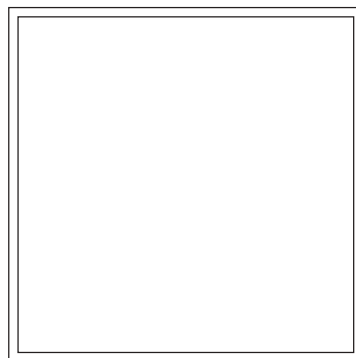
MO: ARMY
OFFICIAL



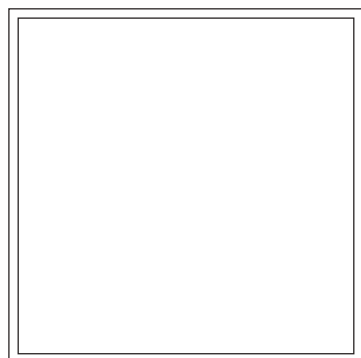
MP: MILITARY
NEWSPAPER



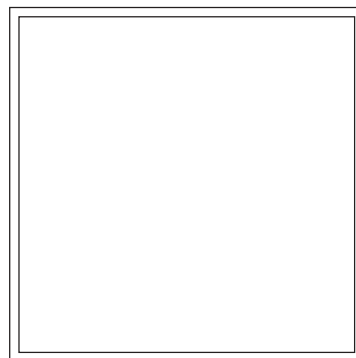
MR: WAR TAX



N: OCCUPATION

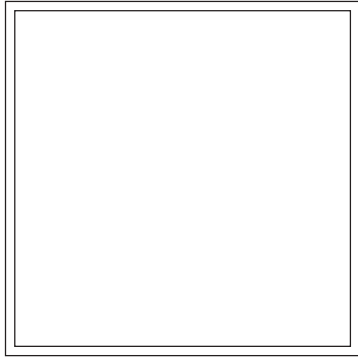


NJ: OCCUPATION
POSTAGE DUE

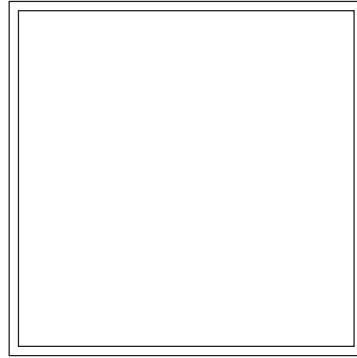


O: OFFICIAL

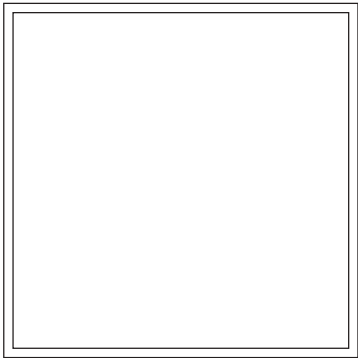
GROUP III OTHER THAN FIRST CLASS MAIL



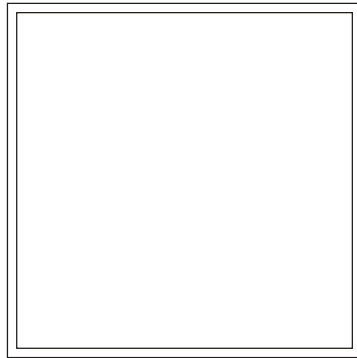
P: NEWSPAPERS



Q: PARCEL POST

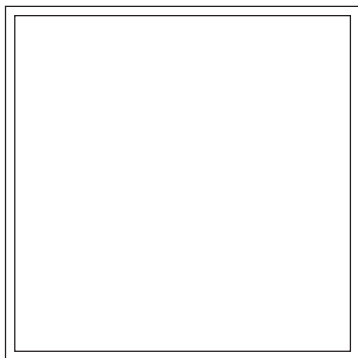


QE: SPECIAL
HANDLING

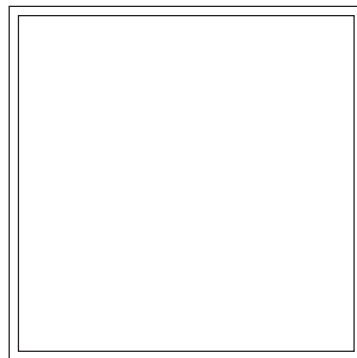


R: REVENUE

GROUP IV POSTAL STATIONARY



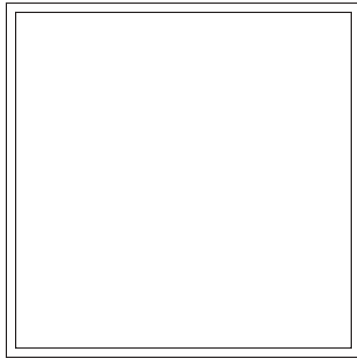
U: STAMPED ENVELOPE
(cut square)



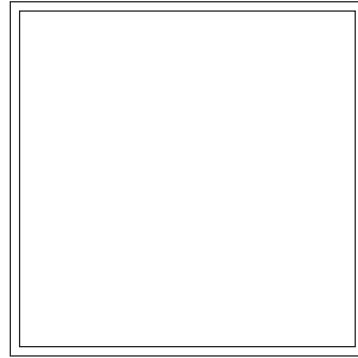
W: STAMPED WRAPPER
(cut square)

Group V are Revenue Stamps. These stamps fall into a sub-class of the previous groups. Revenue Stamps are not used for postal purposes. They are plentiful in their purpose though as you will find out shortly. There are four sub-classes that we will deal with:

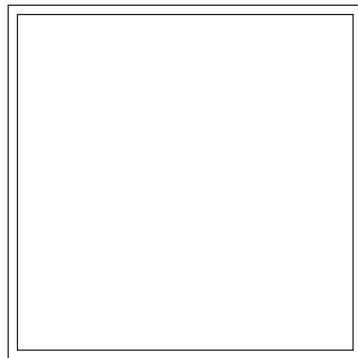
GROUP V REVENUE STAMPS



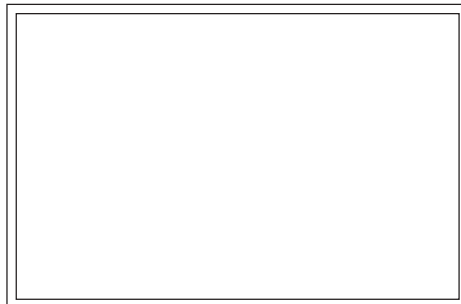
RB: PROPRIETARY



RC: FUTURE DELIVERY

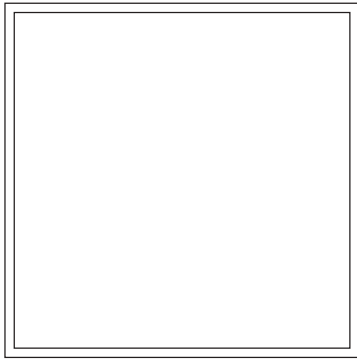


RD: STOCK TRANSFER

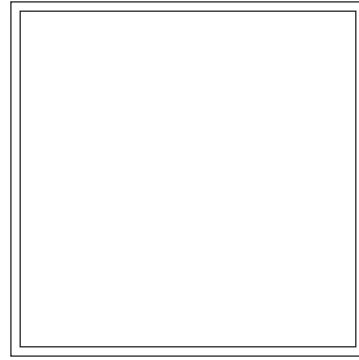


RW: FEDERAL DUCK STAMPS

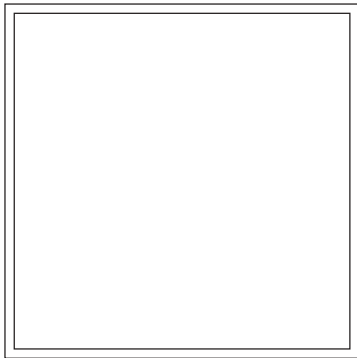
OTHER COLLECTABLE ITEMS THAT ARE NOT POSTAGE STAMPS



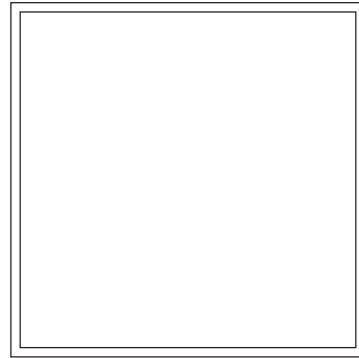
PS: POSTAL SAVINGS



T: TELEGRAPH



WS: WAR SAVINGS

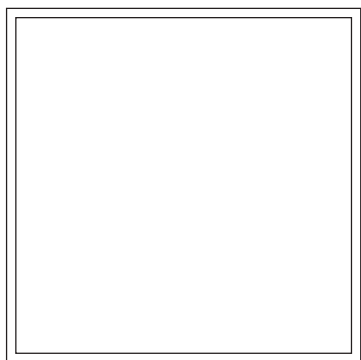


WX: CHRISTMAS SEALS

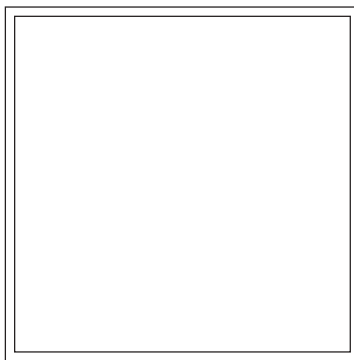
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

TOPICALS

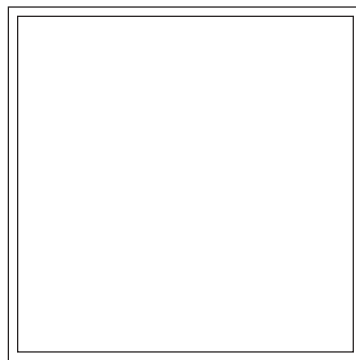
Special collections may be formed covering specific subjects. These are called *Topicals*. These are formed according to subjects, individual issues, countries, interests, etc. These collections may become quite comprehensive. These subjects shown on stamps can vary greatly from the largest to smallest of items. Find one of each of these.



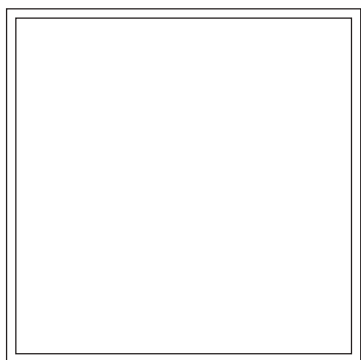
Solar System



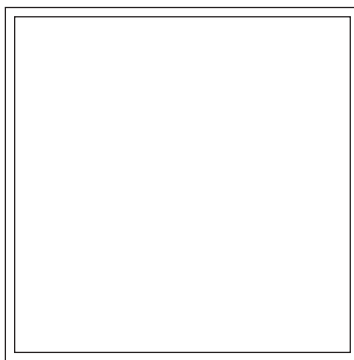
Map of the world



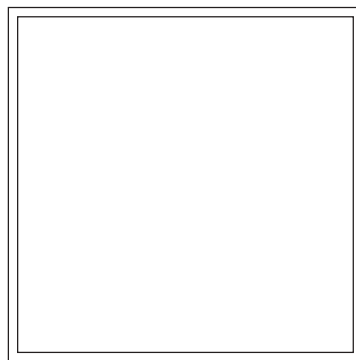
A tiny insect.



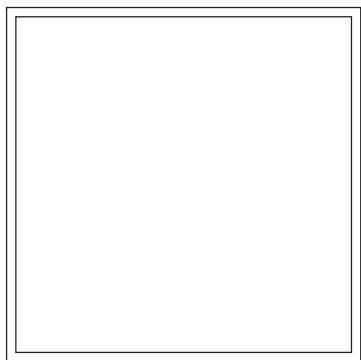
An Atom



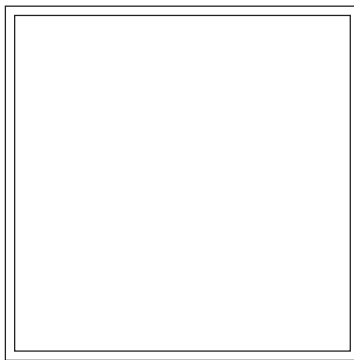
A Frog



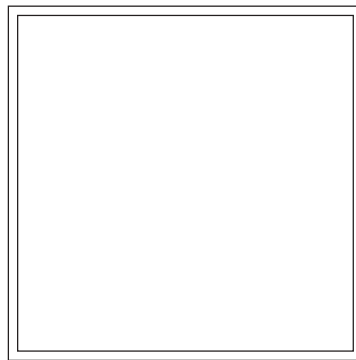
A Tractor



A Cable Car

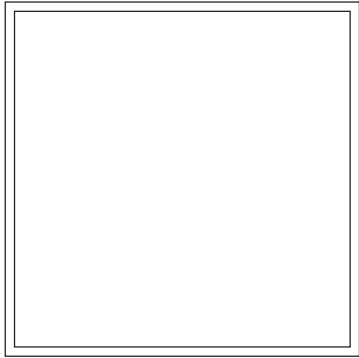


Sheet Music

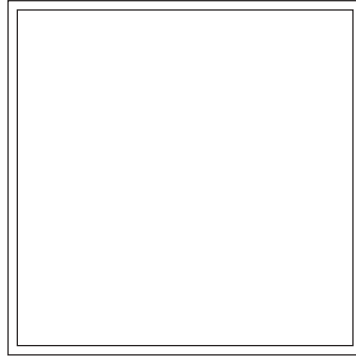


A Sculpture

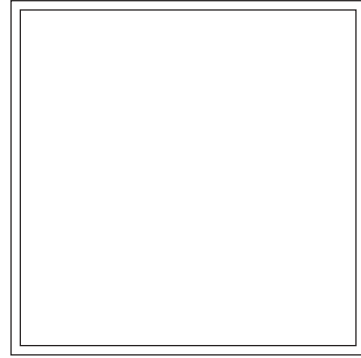
You could collect any subject that interests you.
Let's add some other topicals to this collection. . .



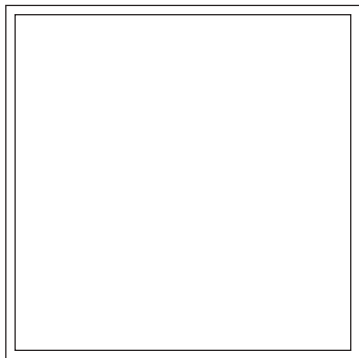
Airplane



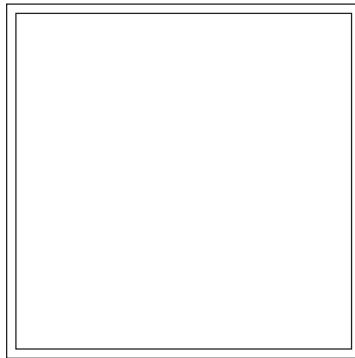
Art



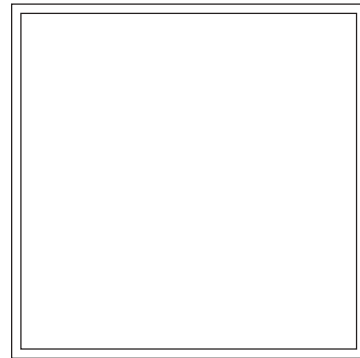
Author



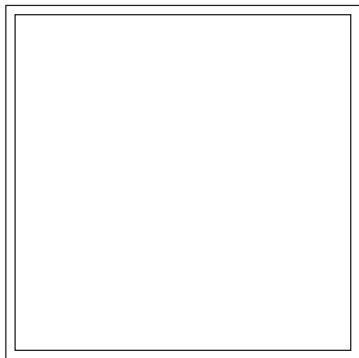
Automobile



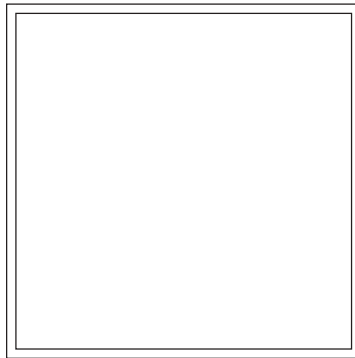
Birds



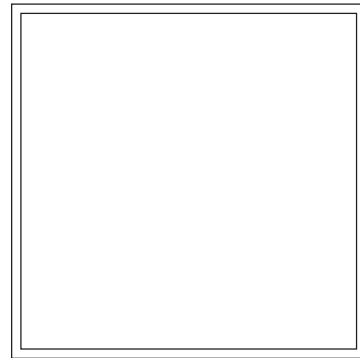
Building



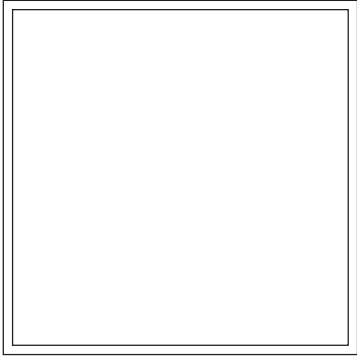
Cat



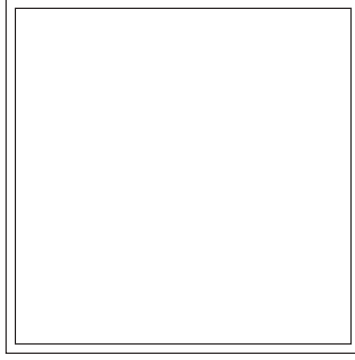
Dog



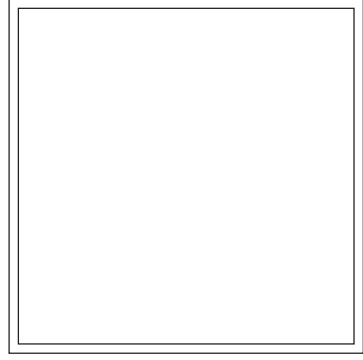
Fish



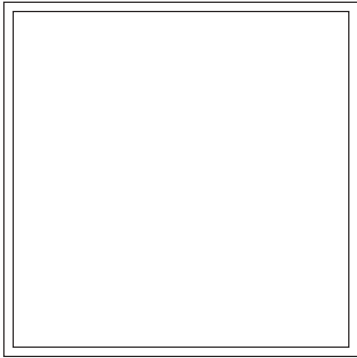
Flower



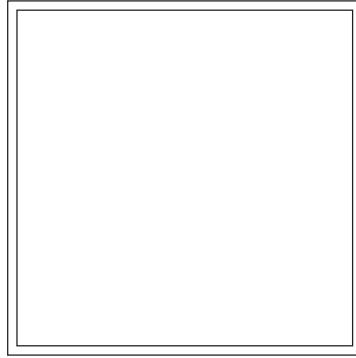
Goat



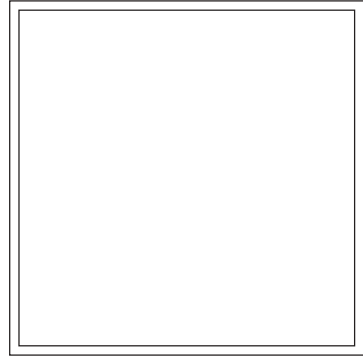
Horse



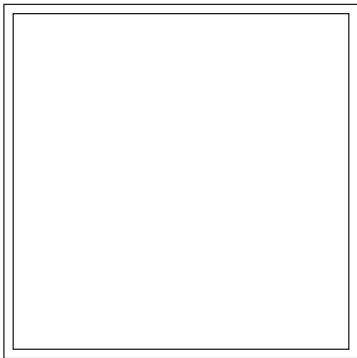
Island



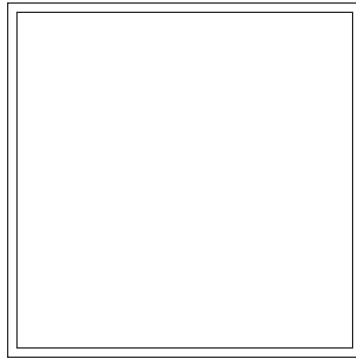
King



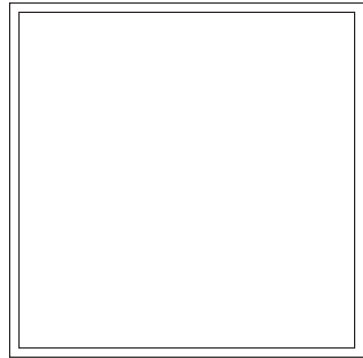
Kites



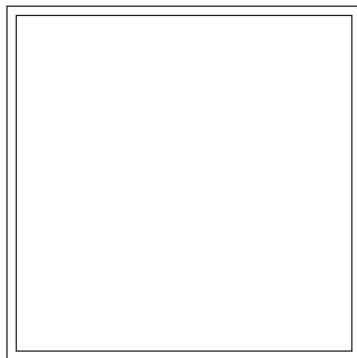
Mineral



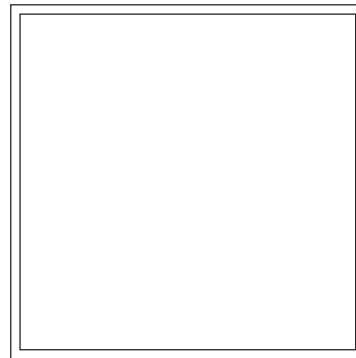
Mountain



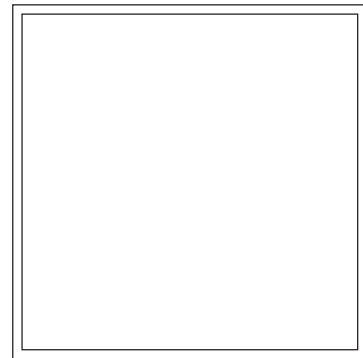
Musical Instrument



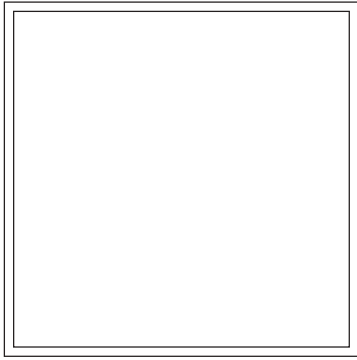
Musician



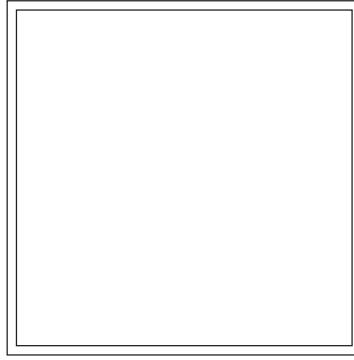
Nautical



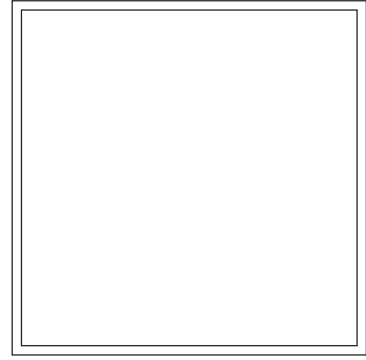
Occupation



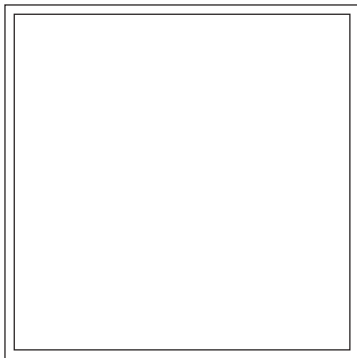
Painting



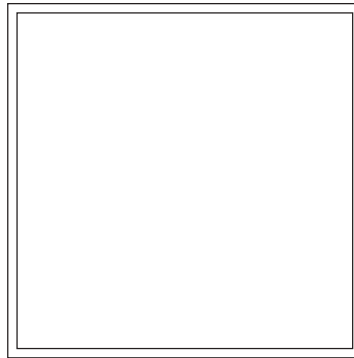
Paperboy



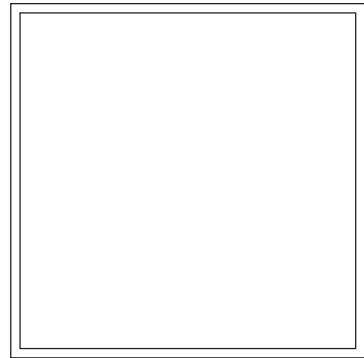
Philately



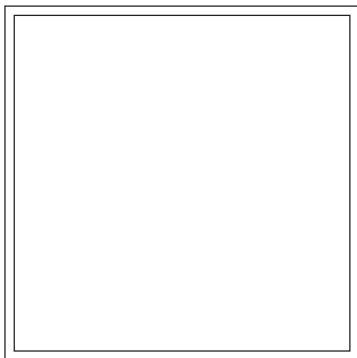
President



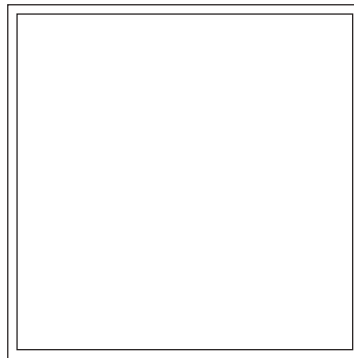
Queen



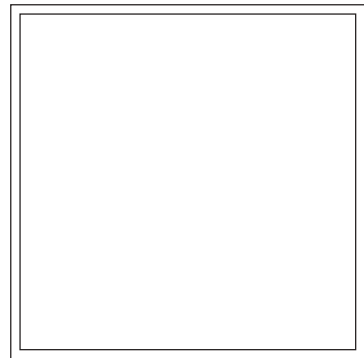
Religion



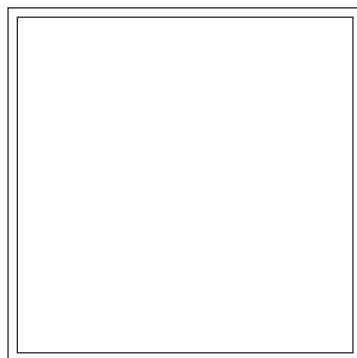
Sailing



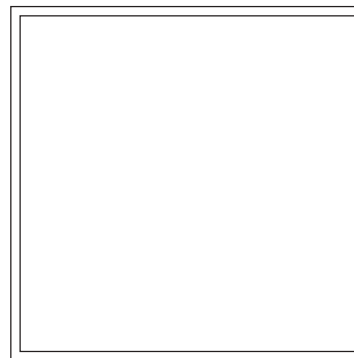
Ships



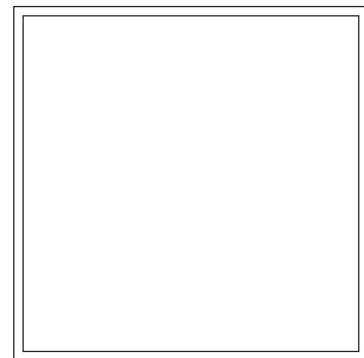
Space



Sports



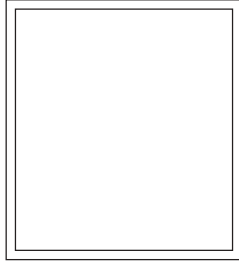
Trains



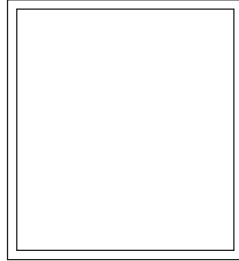
Waterfalls

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS

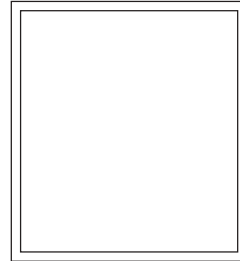
As you probably know already, it doesn't matter what area of interest, occupation, or hobby you get involved with, there are always vocabulary words and definitions that apply to that area of interest. A vocabulary used to better understand the subject. The same thing occurs in the world of Philately. Let's find some stamps that relate to the terminology.



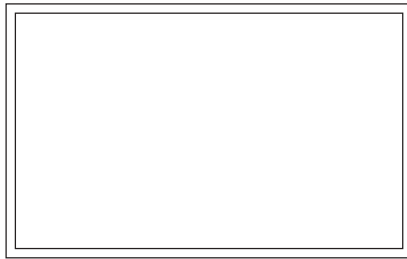
Used Single



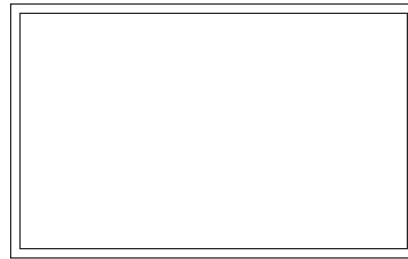
Unused Single



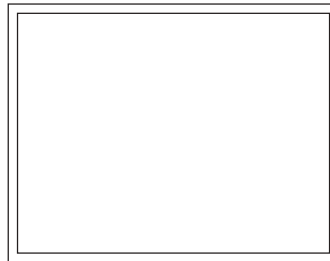
Straight Edge



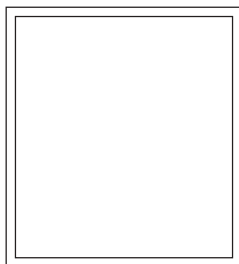
Horizontal Pair



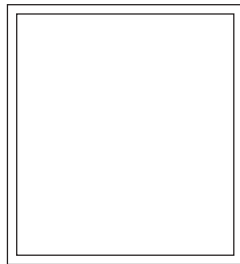
Coil Pair



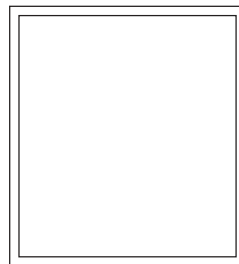
Commemorative



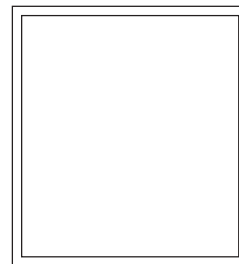
Bi-Color



Cut Square



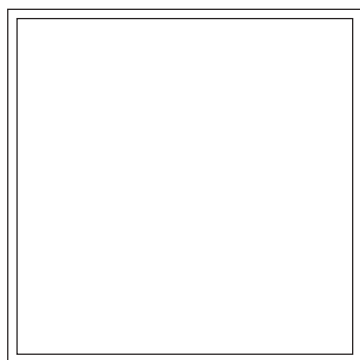
Centered



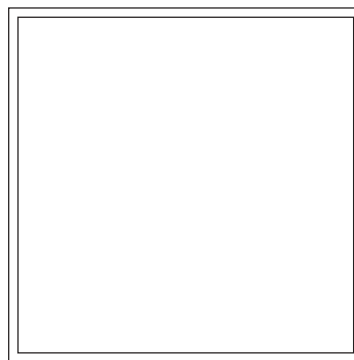
Off-Centered

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS

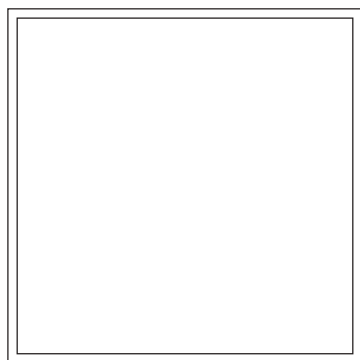
(continued)



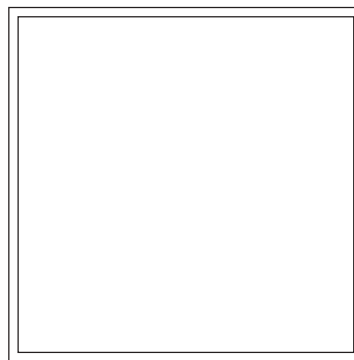
Light Cancel



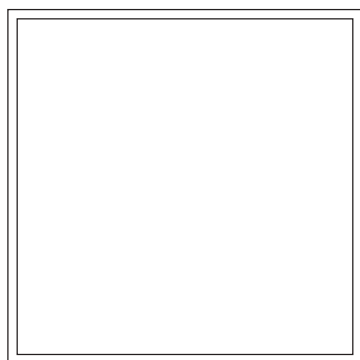
Heavy Cancel



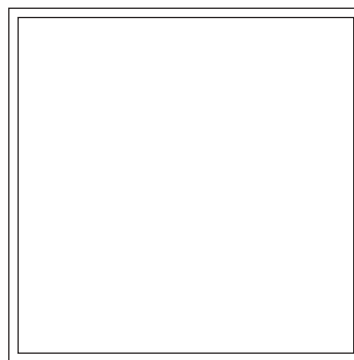
Essay



Forgery



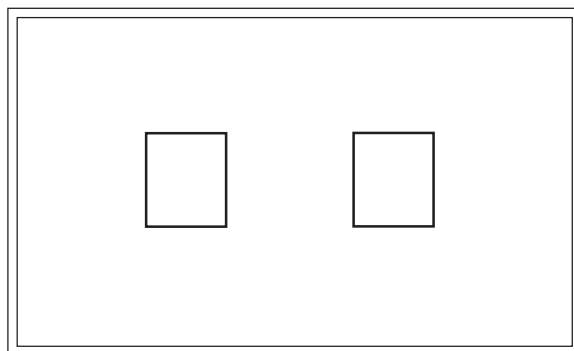
Reprint



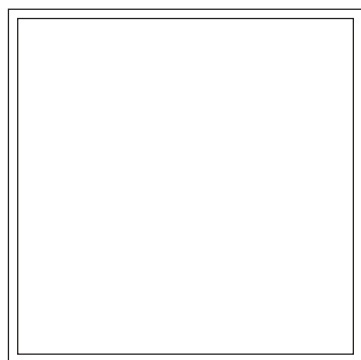
Specimen

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS

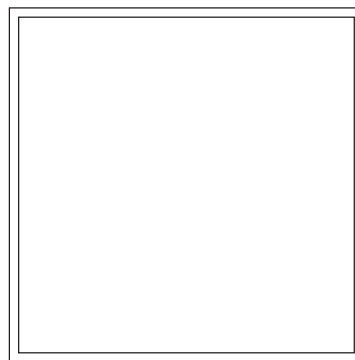
(continued)



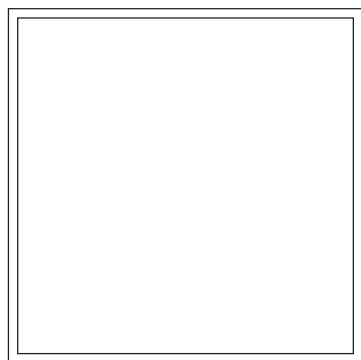
Grill



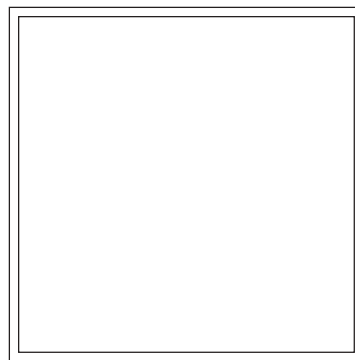
Bisect



Se-Tenant



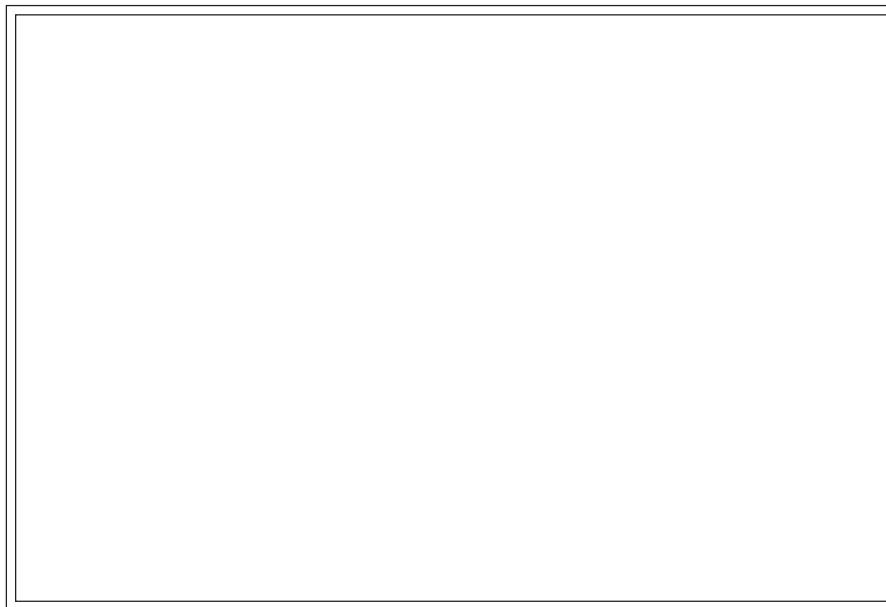
Surcharge or Overprint



Tete-Beche

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS

(continued)



Miniature Sheet



Block of Four

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS

(continued)

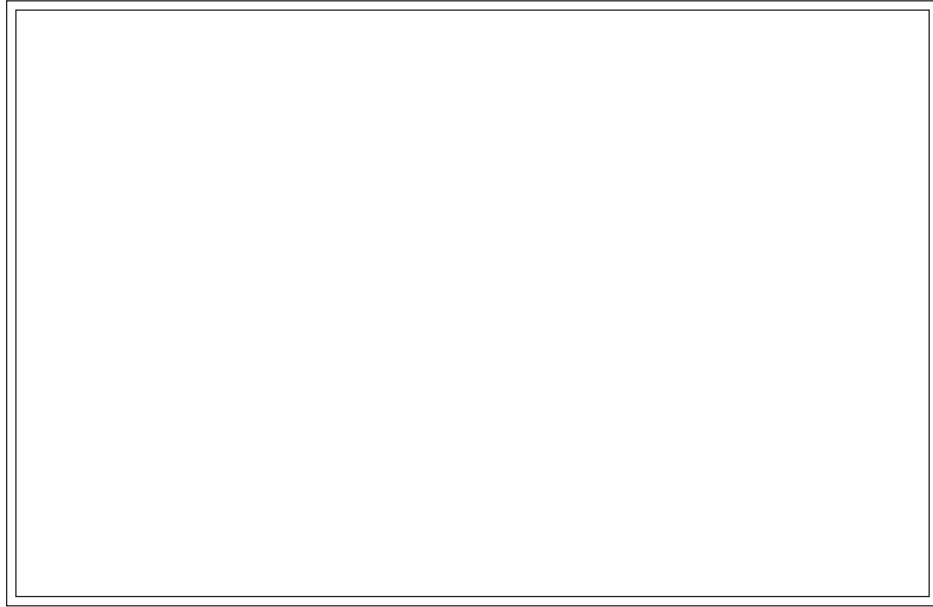


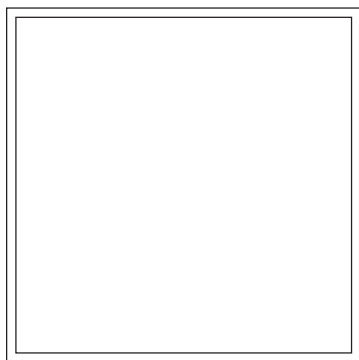
Plate Number Block of Four



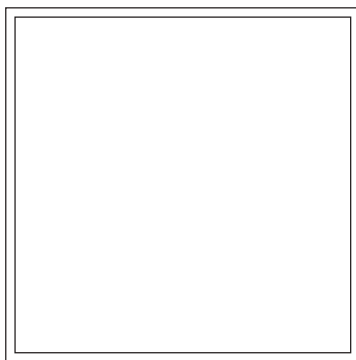
Booklet Pane

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS

(continued)



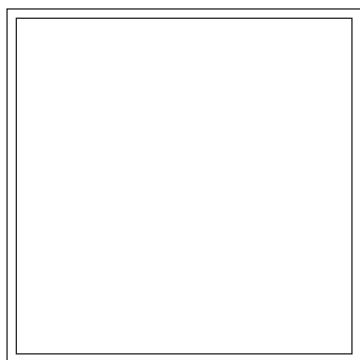
Perforated Initial



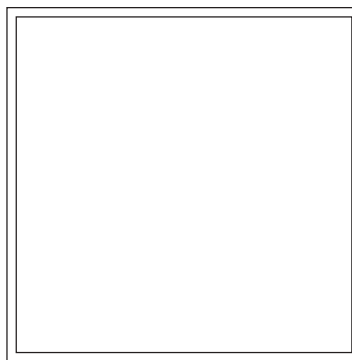
Proof

Methods of Printing Stamps

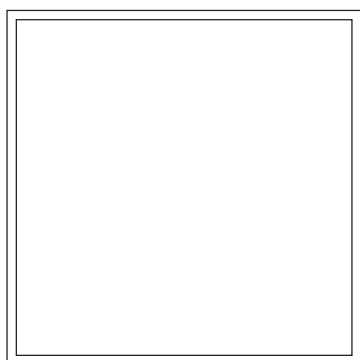
Although most early issued stamps were printed by the “Intaglio” method, there are many other methods of manufacturing stamps.



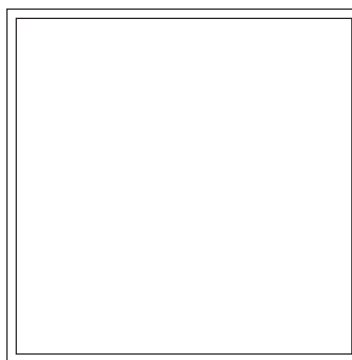
Rotary Press (Curved Plate)



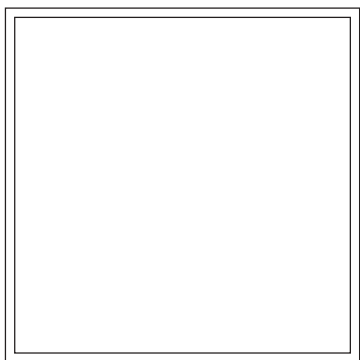
Flat Press



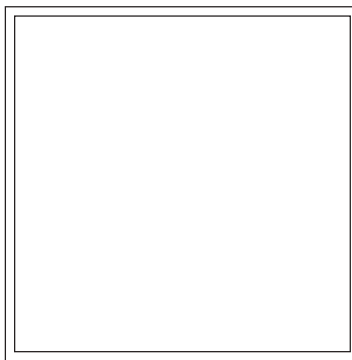
Lithographed



Offset



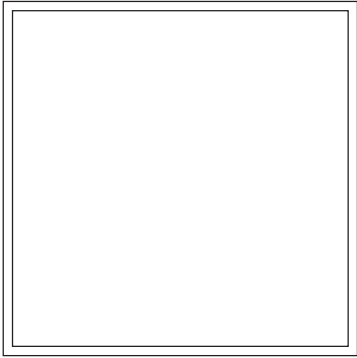
Typographed



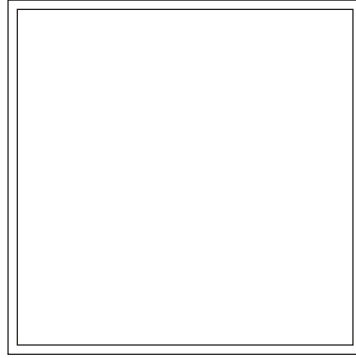
Photogravure

Types of Paper

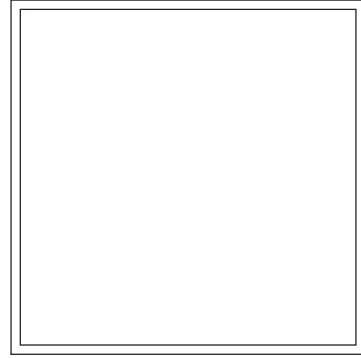
Not at all suprising, there are many types of paper used in the manufacturing of stamps.



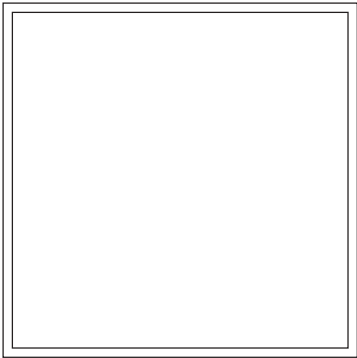
Hard White



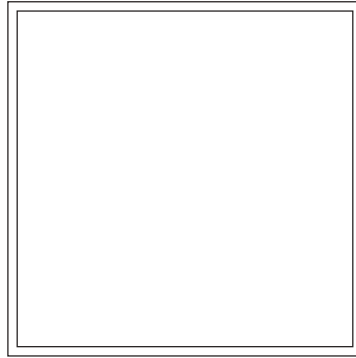
Soft White



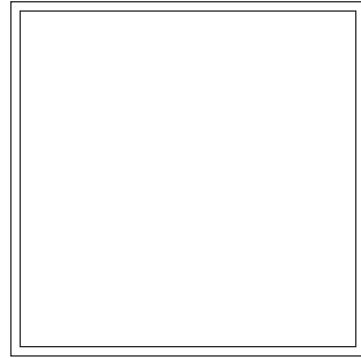
Silk



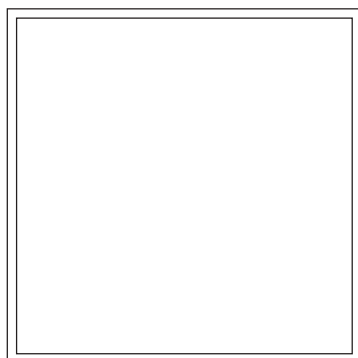
Granite



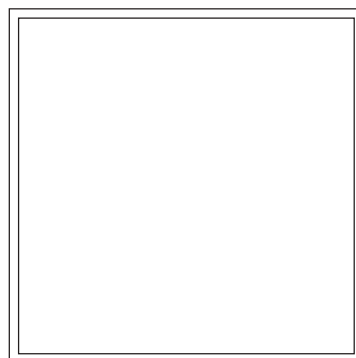
Quadrille



Cardboard



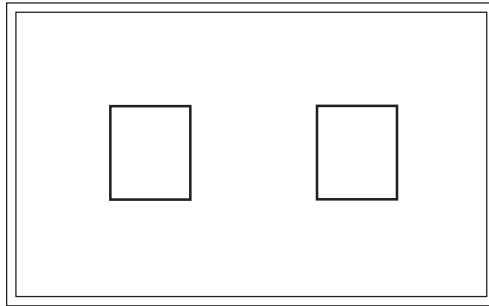
Moire



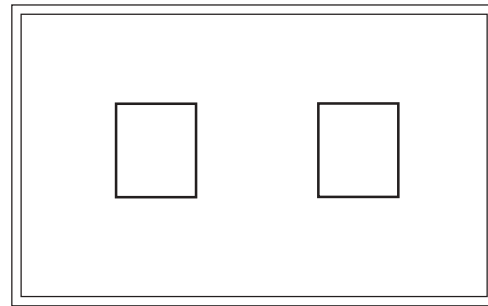
Pelure

Watermarked / Unwatermarked

Watermarked paper can be detected by placing the stamp face down on a black surface and moistening the stamp with either benzine or carbon-tetrachloride. Today you can't get the carbon-tetrachloride and the benzine isn't safe. Order the special fluids being sold today to check for watermarks. Don't take a chance.



Watermarked



Un-watermarked

I would suggest you purchase a watermark tray and some fluid. Also a perforation guage is a very valuable item to have at hand. Order these with your tongs and stamp hinges.

Perforations & Perf Guage

A perf gauge is a device that helps you count the number of perforations that could be fit within two centimeters. The cut out part is called the perforations and the part that is left is called the "teeth" or "perf tips." Perf gauges are very inexpensive. It is highly recommended that you get yourself one. You will need it.

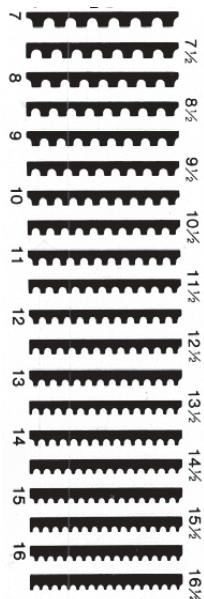
Here's how to use it. . .

Place you stamp on the gauge lining up the holes to the gauge. When you find a match, you've got your measurement.

This stamp is Scott #304.

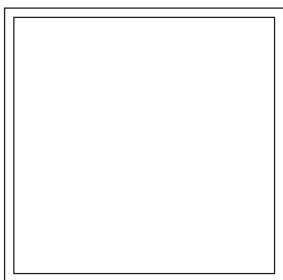
It is perf 12.

There are many different perfs and many different ways that stamps are perforated as you will see on the following pages. Let us begin. . .

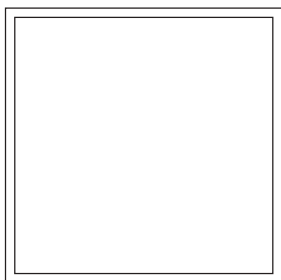


Separating Stamps

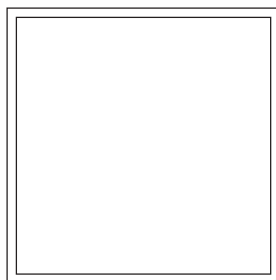
When stamps were first made they had to be separated with scissors. Later someone discovered other ways to separate the stamps. Here are some. . .



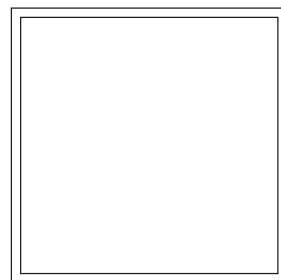
Imperforate
(cut with scissors)



Roulette

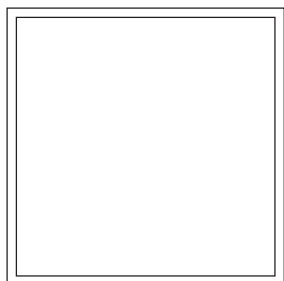


Serrate Roulette

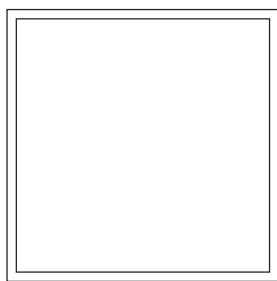


Rouletted in
Colored Lines

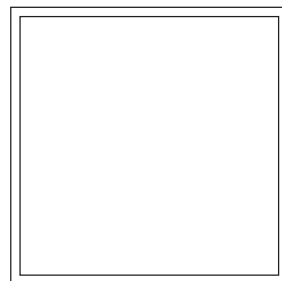
Soon man invented a perforating machine. This happened in the 1850's. Various experiments were made as to what size of perforation worked best.



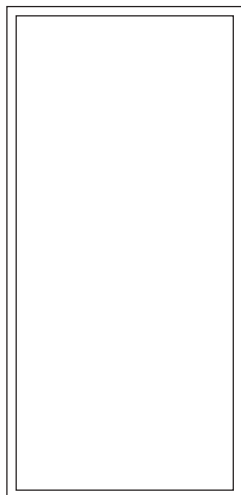
Small Perf.
15 x 15



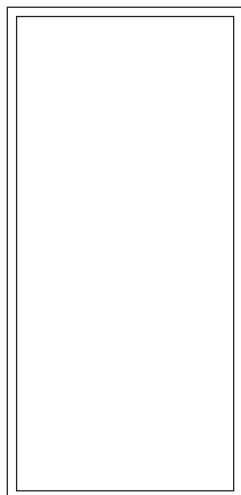
Large Perf.
10 x 10



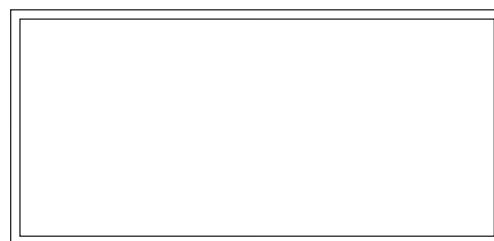
Compound
10.5 x 11



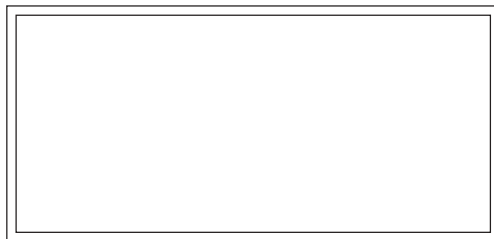
Vertical Coil



Vertical Coil
Line Pair



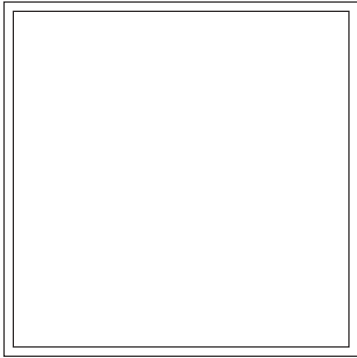
Horizontal Coil



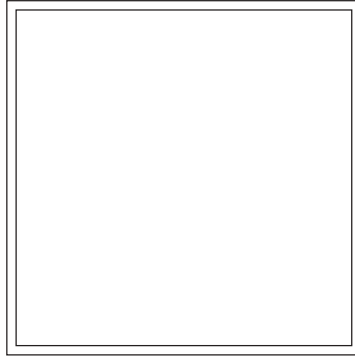
Horizontal Coil Line Pair

Cancellations

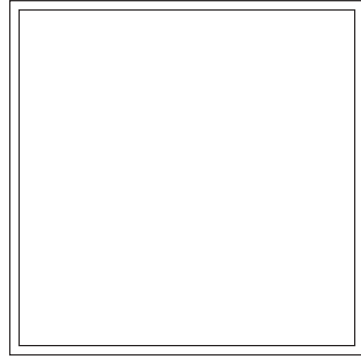
Cancellations are a wonderful and interesting item to collect. Many, many different ways of cancelling stamps have occurred over the years. From hand cancelled to machine, here are a few. . .



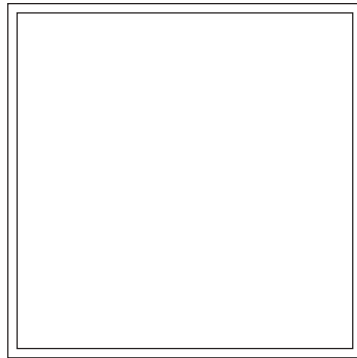
Pen & Ink Manuscript
(very early form)



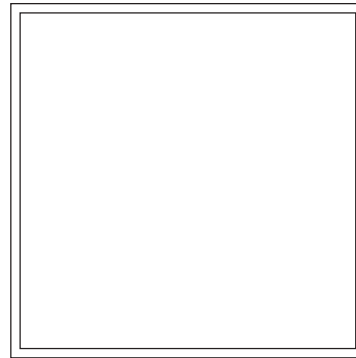
Town Cancel
Handstamp



Cork Cancel

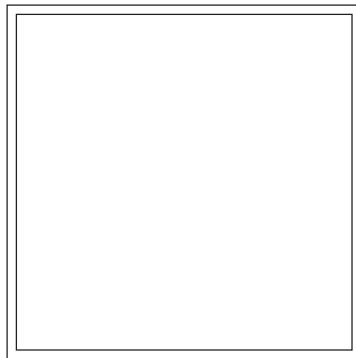


Fancy Cancel
Stars & Designs



Machine Cancel
Today's Standard

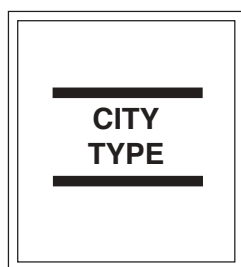
Any one of these would be fun to collect. Even the machine cancels. There are some folks who collect S.O.T.N. This stands for "Socked on the Nose" or sometimes called "Bullseye." The closer the circle to the center the better.



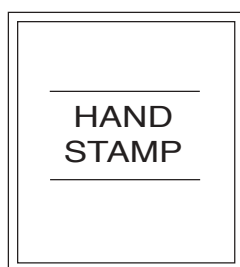
A beautiful near bullseye s.o.t.n.

Precancelling

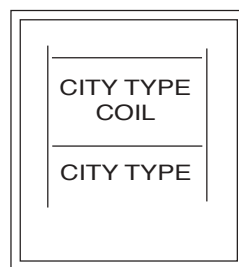
Precancelling of stamps is a means of cutting down the actual labor of cancelling stamps. Large mail users will use this to cut expenses of mailings.



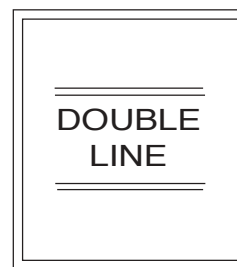
City Type



Hand Stamp

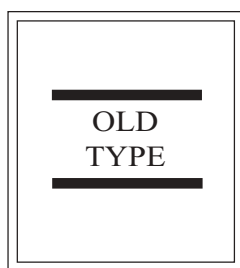


Coil Machine

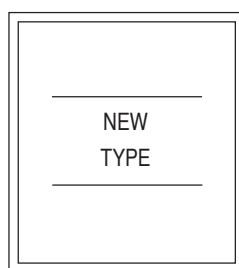


Double Line

There are other United States stamps that are cancelled during printing. These are known as "Bureau Print Precancels."



Old Type

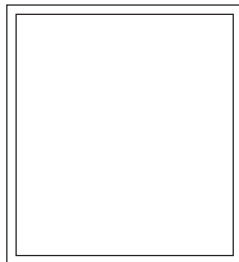


New Type

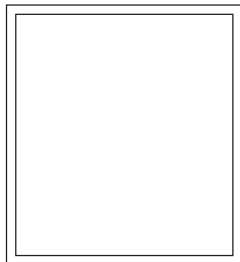
There are approximately 5,000 different Bureau Print Precancels that exist today

Currencies of the World

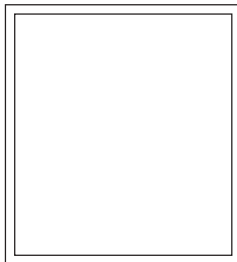
You will find many different currencies in stamp collecting besides the United States dollar. Let's collect some. . .



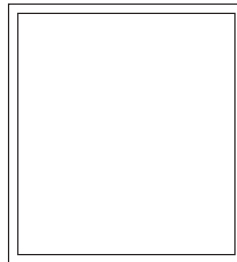
Baht
Siam



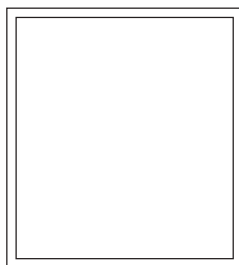
Balboa
Panama



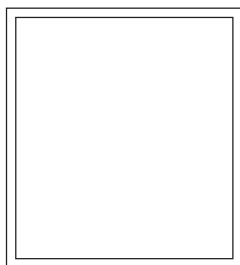
Belga
Belgium



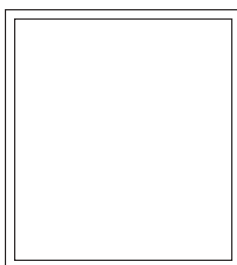
Boliviano
Bolivia



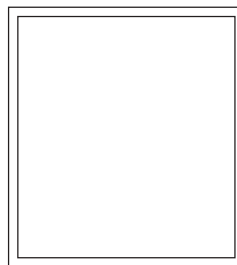
Bolivar
Venezuela



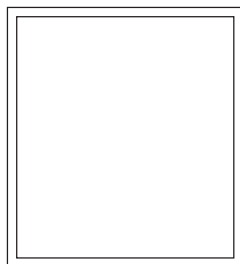
Colon
Costa Rica



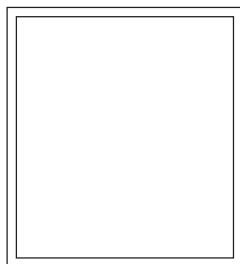
Cordoba
Nicaragua



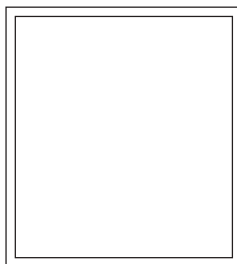
Cuzeiro
Brazil



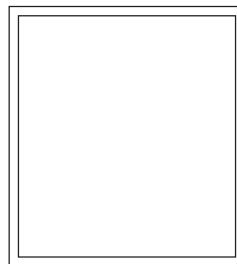
Drachma
Greece



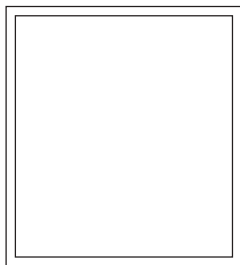
Escudo
Portugal



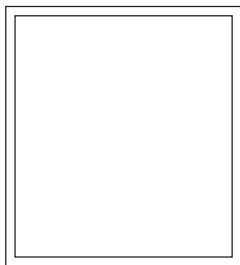
Forint
Hungary



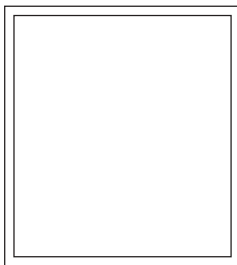
Franc
France



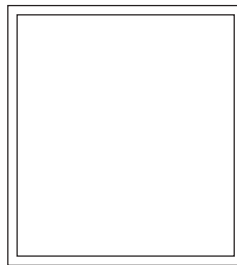
Guarani
Paraguay



Gourde
Haiti



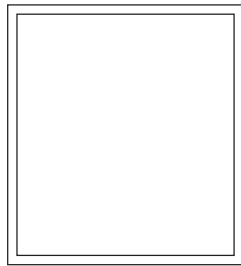
Gulden
Netherlands



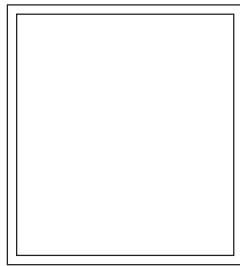
Koruna
Czecho-slovakia

Currencies of the World

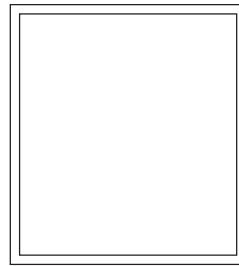
(Continued)



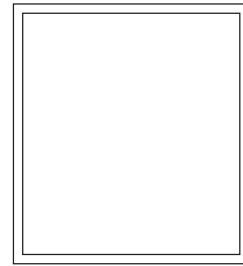
Kroon
Estonia



Krona
Sweden

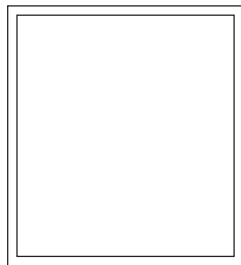


Krone
Denmark

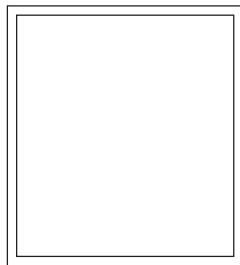


Lempira
Honduras

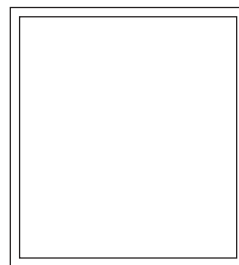
Like the United States, other countries have smaller denominations also.



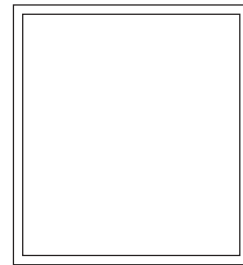
Leu
Romaina



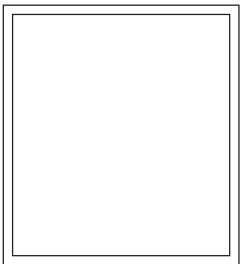
Leva
Bulgaria



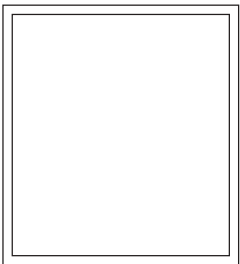
Lira
Italy



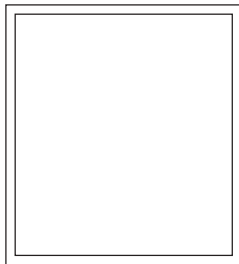
Litas
Lithuania



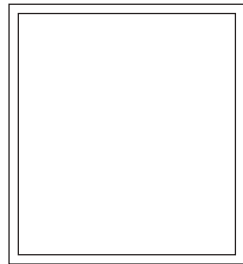
Mark
Germany



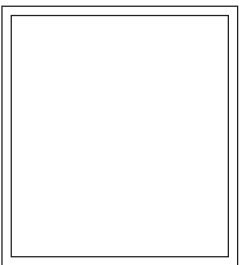
Markka
Finland



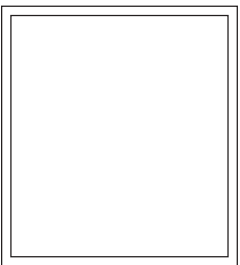
Peseta
Spain



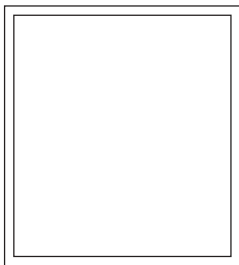
Peso
Argentina



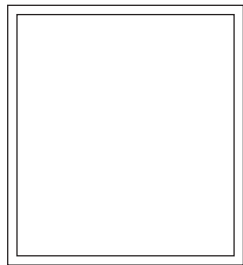
Pound
Great Britain



Piastre
Turkey



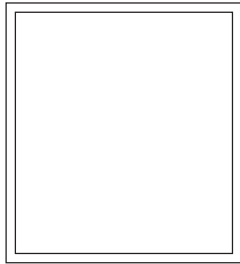
Quetzal
Guatemala



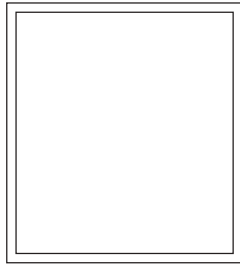
Rial
Iran

Currencies of the World

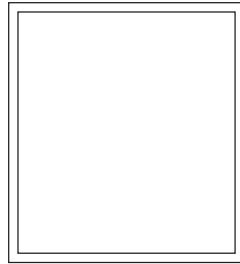
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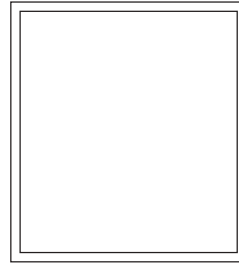
Ruble
Russia



Rupee
India

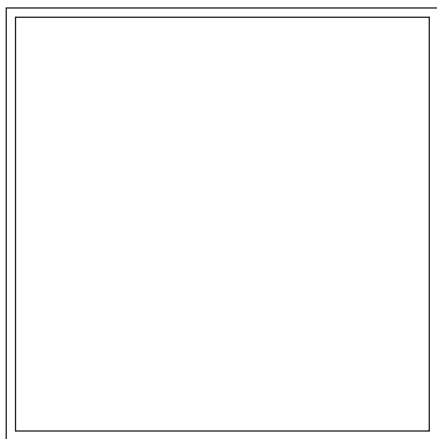


Schilling
Austria

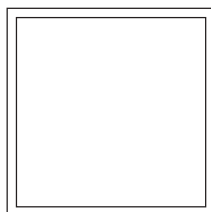


Sol
Peru

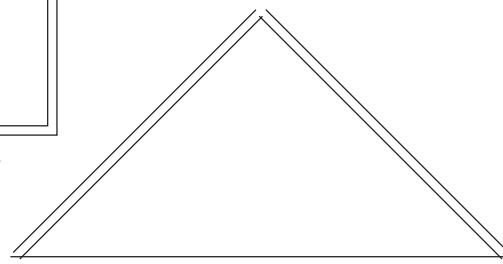
Odd and Unusual Issued Stamps



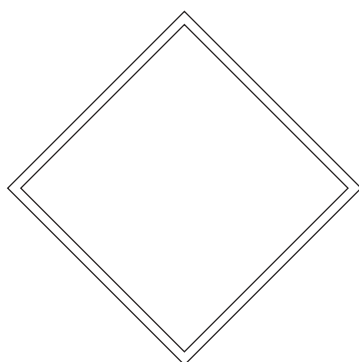
LARGE



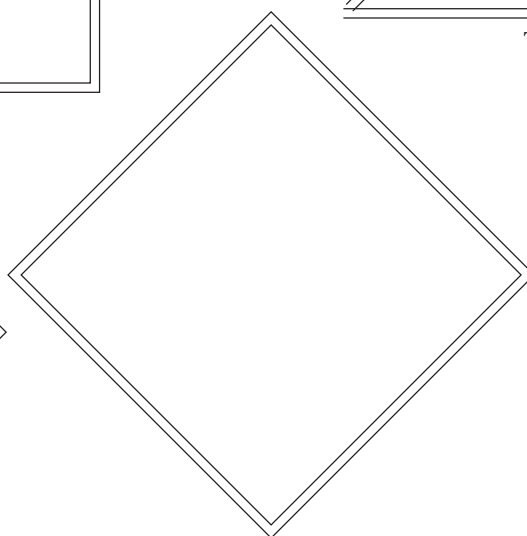
SMALL



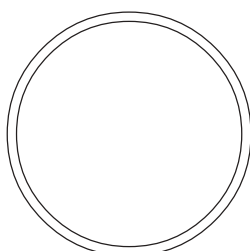
TRIANGLE



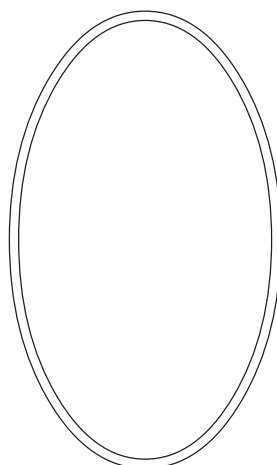
DIAMOND



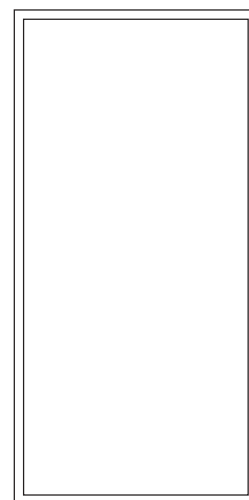
LARGE DIAMOND



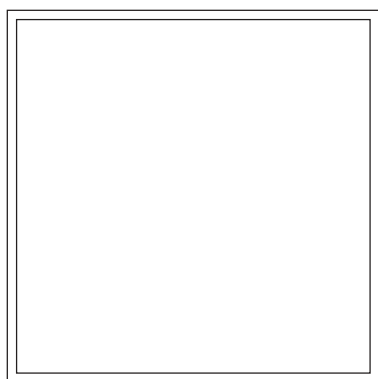
CIRCLE



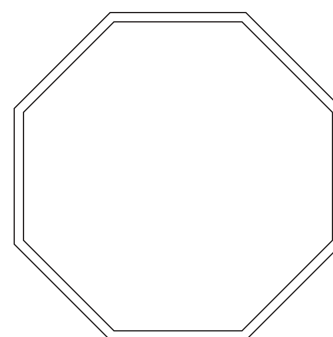
OBLONG



UPRIGHT



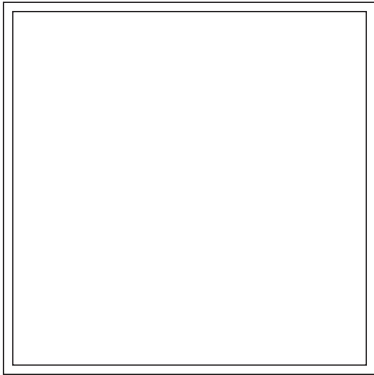
SQUARE



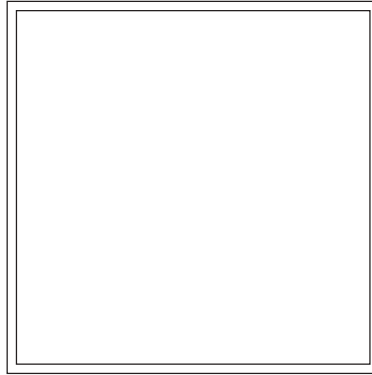
OCTAGONAL

Unusual Issued Stamps

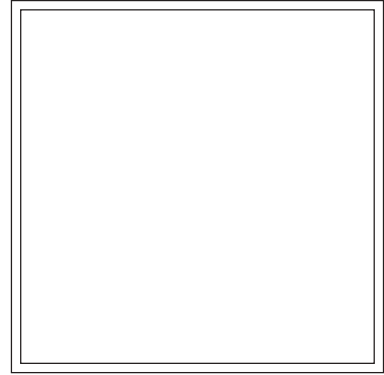
(Continued)



“DO NOT DELIVER ON
SUNDAY” Tag

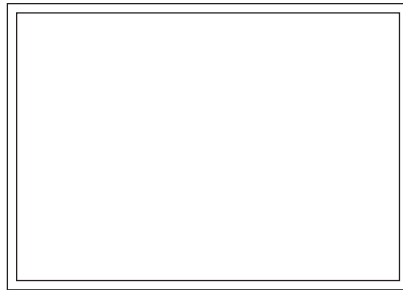


AD ON BACK



AD ATTACHED
TO STAMP

Classic of all classic error stamps is the United States 24¢ airmail stamp of May 13th, 1918. Sometimes called the “Inverted Jenny” has sold for as much as \$150,000! There will be no “Space” for it provided in our little stamp album. Hmmmmm, Wonder why? ;-)

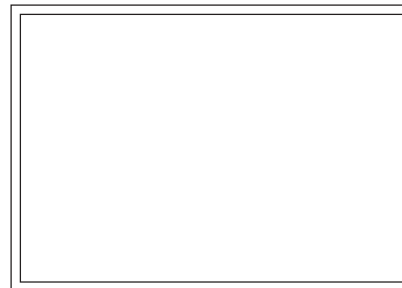
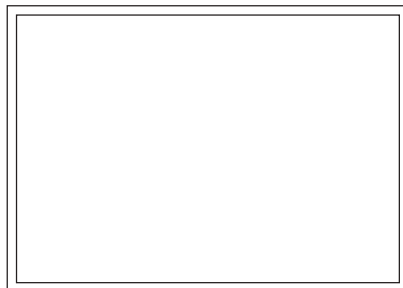


Error of Color



Inverted Center or Surcharge

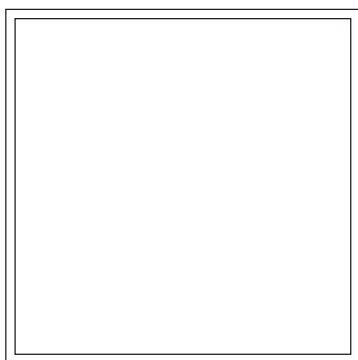
*It doesn't take long for the collector to find mistakes or flaws in design.
Here is one example:*



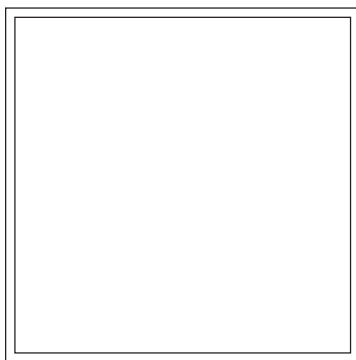
An interesting would be flaw is the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps of the “Columbian Exposition Issue” of 1893. Columbus has no beard when he sights land in the “Columbus Sights Land” 1¢, and then moments later when he lands in the 2¢ “Landing of Columbus,” he has a beard! Of course this is because two different paintings were used for these stamps.

Educational Value is Exceptional

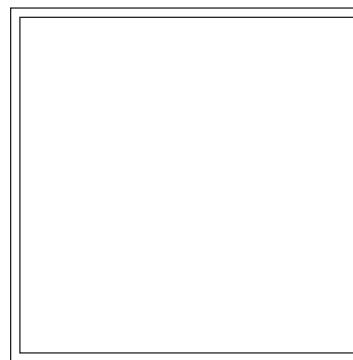
There is a tremendous amount of education and history in stamp collecting. History and Geography are recorded and illustrated in philately. (Let's not forget the wonderful artwork also. That's what originally got me started with stamps.) National heroes, both living and dead, are shown on stamps of the world, but in the United States, no living person is shown on a stamp to date. Let's find a few famous persons.



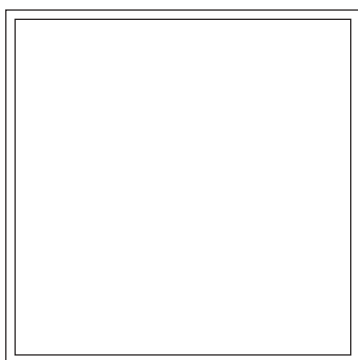
King Gustave V



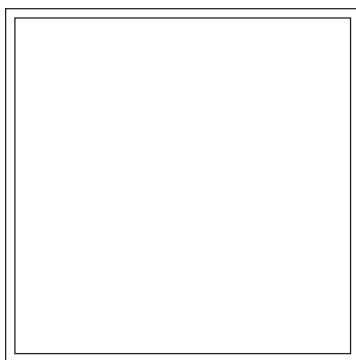
King George V



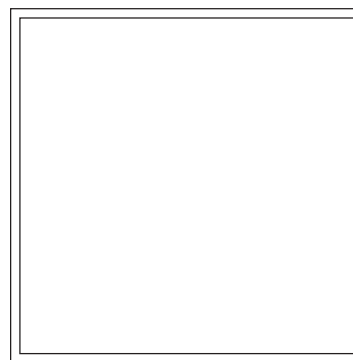
George Washington



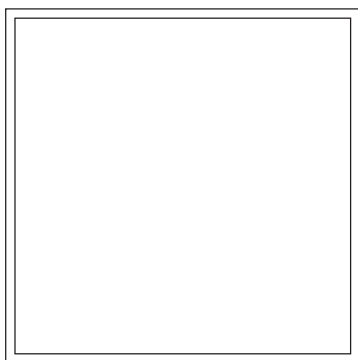
Abraham Lincoln



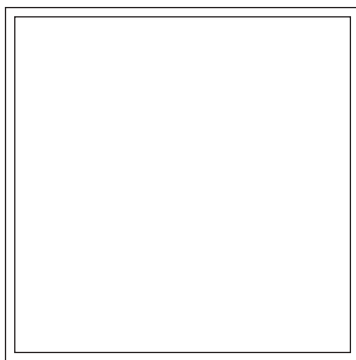
Will Rogers



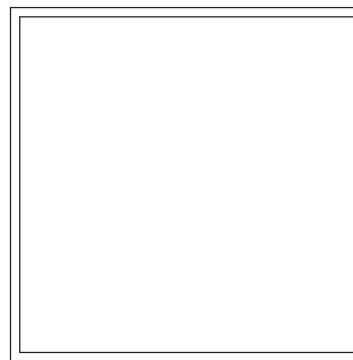
Edgar Allen Poe



James Monroe



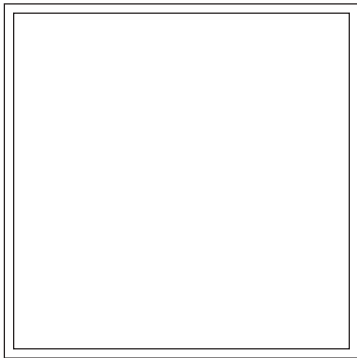
Alexander Hamilton



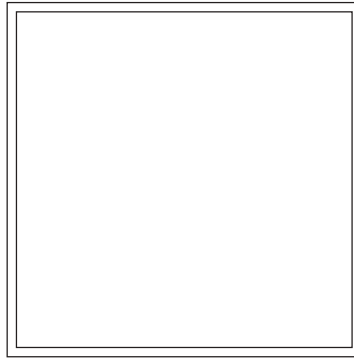
Dwight D.
Eisenhower

Educational Value is Exceptional

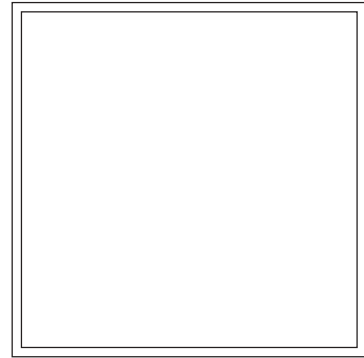
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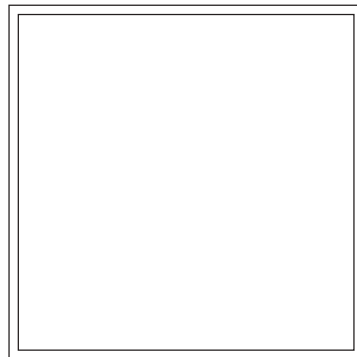
Tennessee Williams



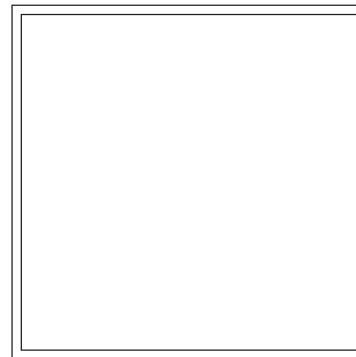
Boris Karloff



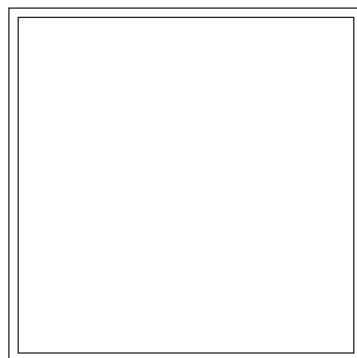
Wright Brothers



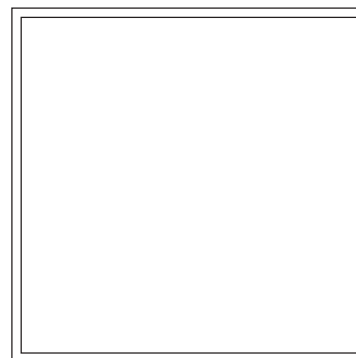
Marilyn Monroe



Jesse Owens



Amelia Earhart



Gen. George S.
Patton, Jr.

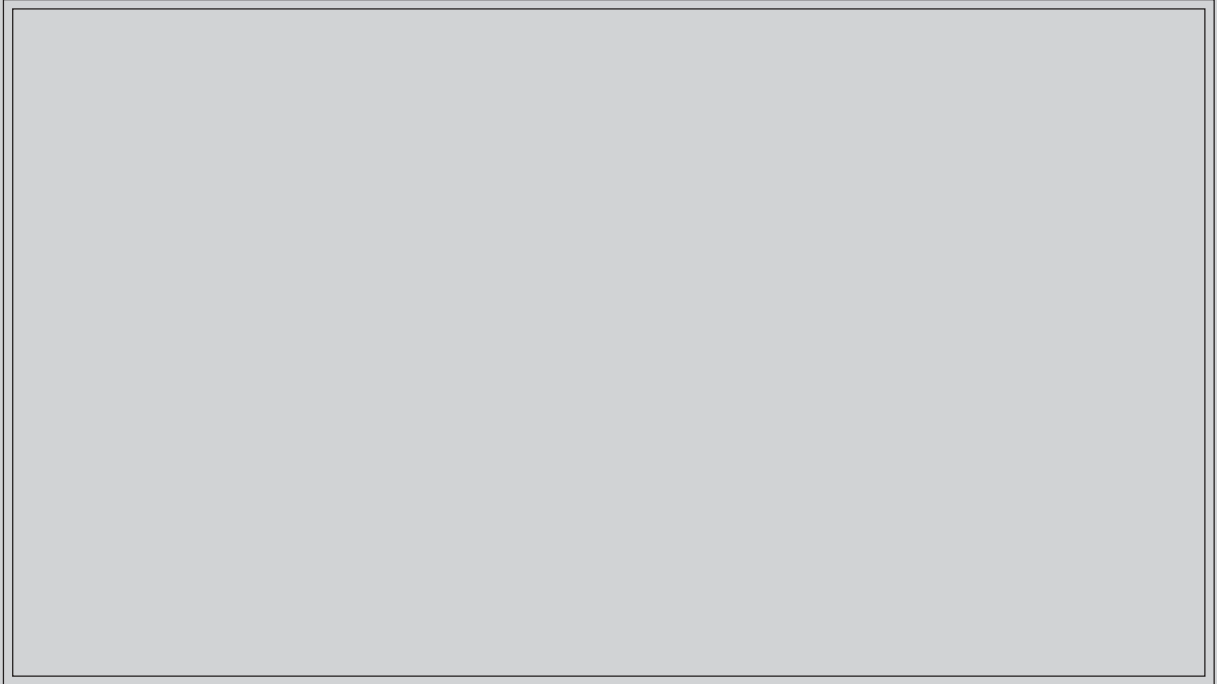
Cover Collecting

Cover collecting has really become popular for the collector. Cover collecting is collecting the entire mailing. Envelope, stamp and the correspondence inside. Before the 'stamp' was invented, the mailing often was just a folded letter without a stamp. This is known as a "Stampless Cover." Stamps were not used until 1855!

What has really made Cover Collecting so popular is because everyone 'Soaked' off the stamp for their collection. Now, because of this habit, stamps on original covers are very scare! Very interesting cancellations, postmarks, notes added to the cover are being found that otherwise would be tossed in the trash. Find an original stamp on a original cover.

Cover Collecting (continued)

Another cover subject collected by philatelists is “Naval Cancellations.” These are letters mailed aboard Government Naval Vessels. They can be found with some special markings as well as the ships name that they are mailed from.



A very beautiful cover is the “Cached” cover. This is where art and graphics are added to the envelope that reflect the same topic/subject as the stamp. Early “Cached” covers were made for personal use. Today many companies are making “Cached” covers for public distribution. F.D.C. (First Day Covers) are “Cached” but are issued “only” on the first day the stamp is released for use.

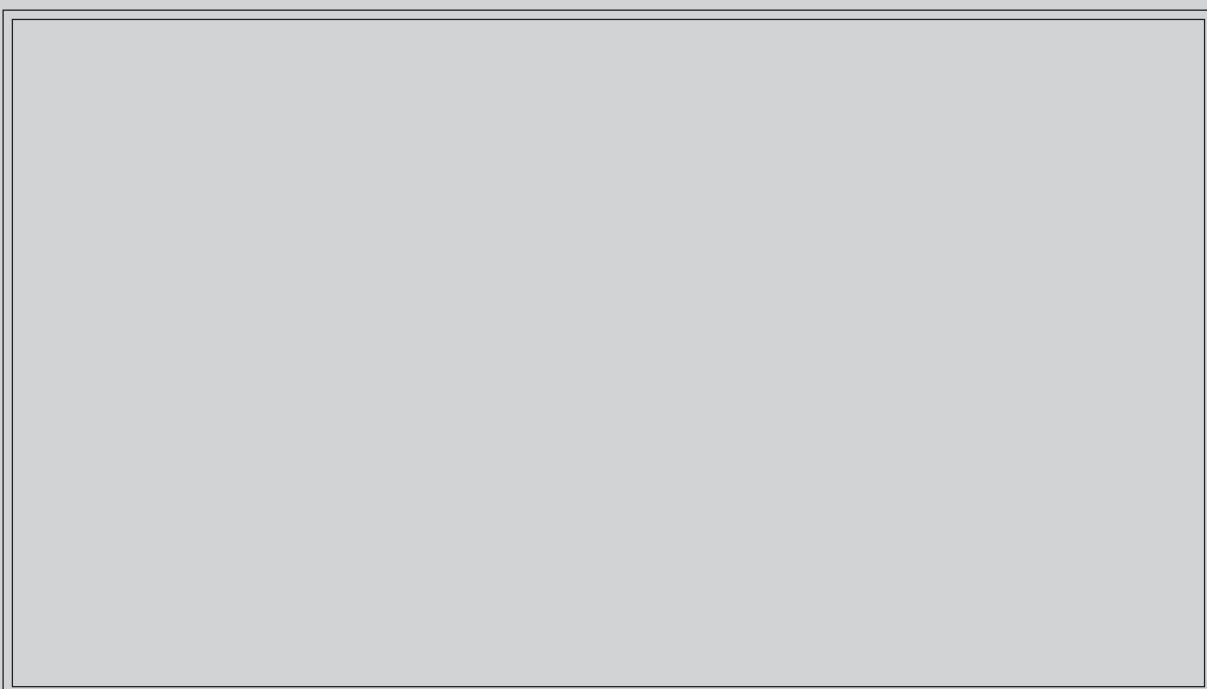


Cover Collecting (continued)

“Official cachets” are made by the U.S.P.S. for “first flights” from one city to another. Some of these “first flights” date as early as 1911.



Many times communities would create covers that related to the businesses in their locale. Hotels, stores and businesses used unused envelopes for advertising, return-cards or similar markings of

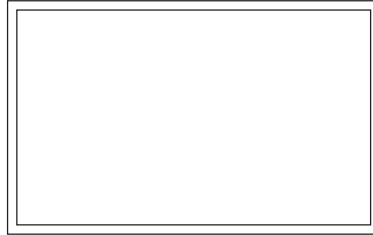


Countries of the World

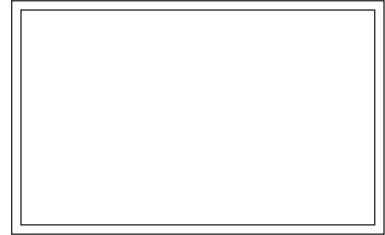
Let's try and collect one stamp from each country of the world.



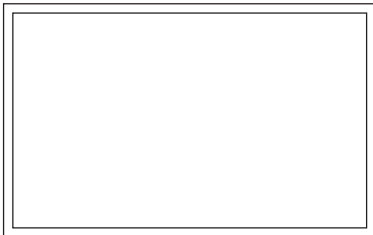
Ascension



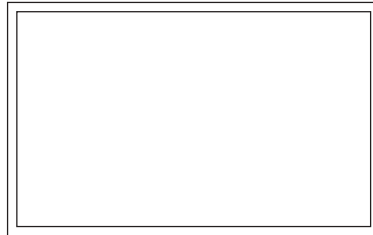
Afghanistan



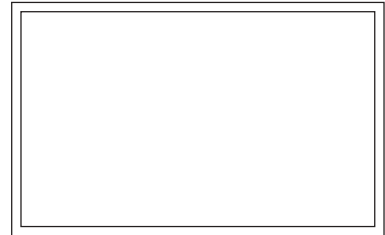
Aitutaki



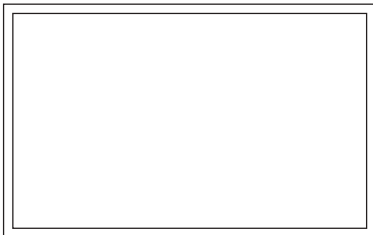
Albania



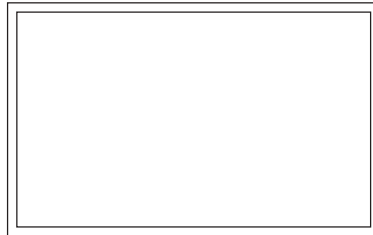
Algeria



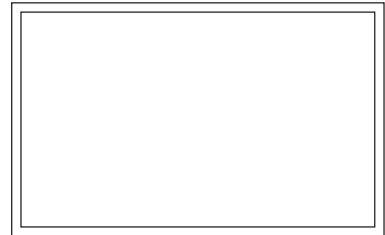
Andorra



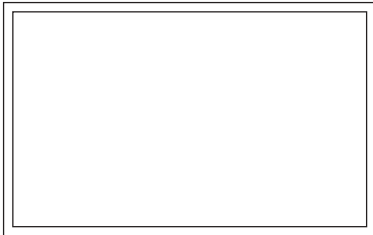
Angola



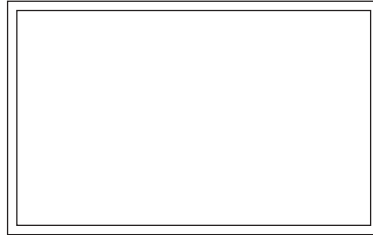
Anguilla



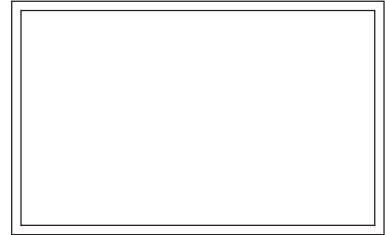
Antigua



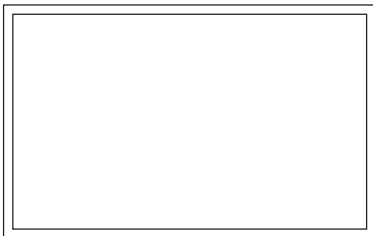
Argentina



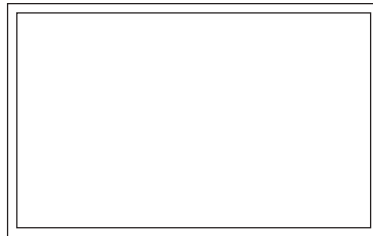
Aruba



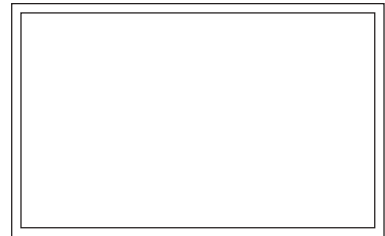
Australia



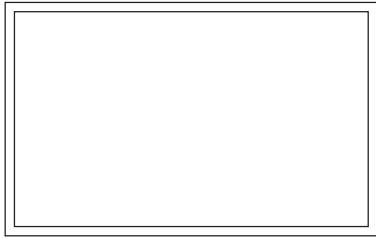
Austria



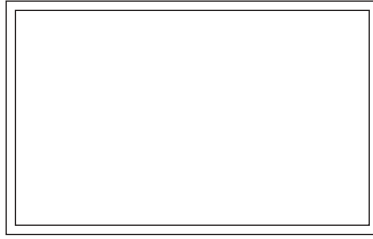
Bahamas



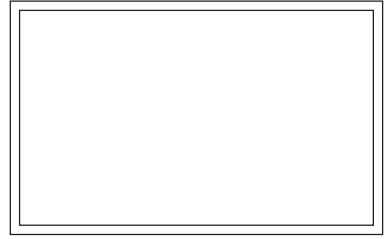
Bahrain



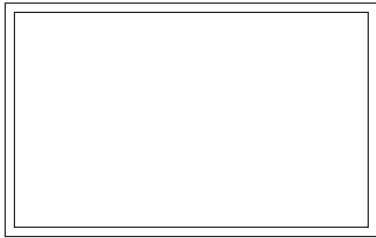
Belgium



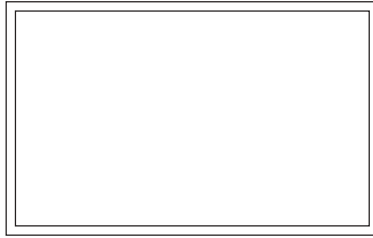
Bangladesh



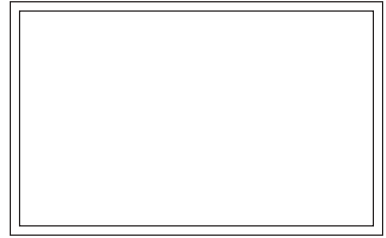
Barbados



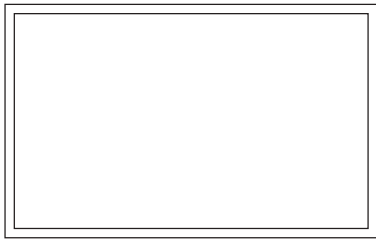
Barbuda



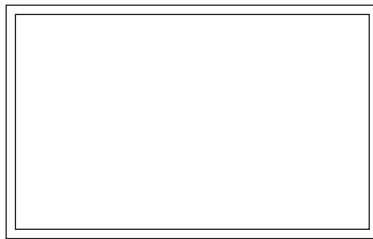
Belize



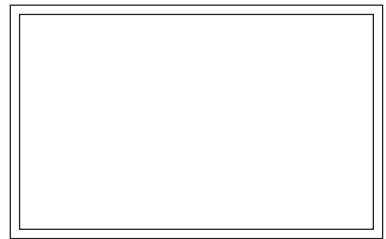
Benin



Bermuda



Bhutan



Bolivia



Botswana



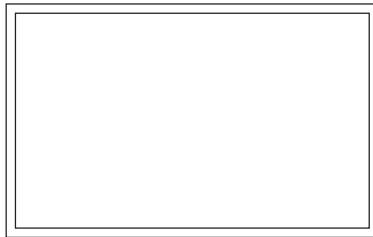
Brazil



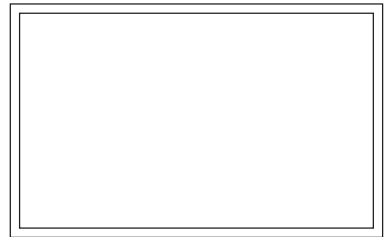
British Guiana



British Honduras



Brunei



Bulgaria



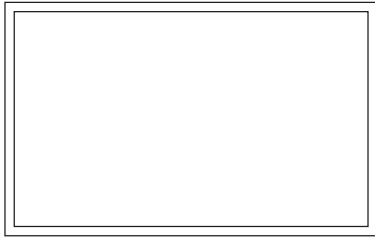
Burkina Faso



Burma



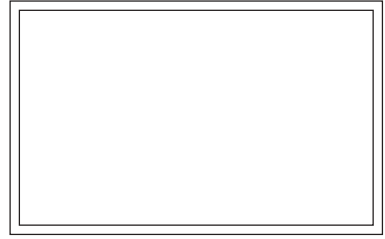
Burundi



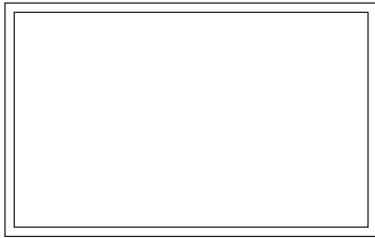
Cambodia



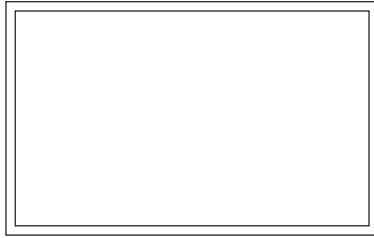
Cameroun



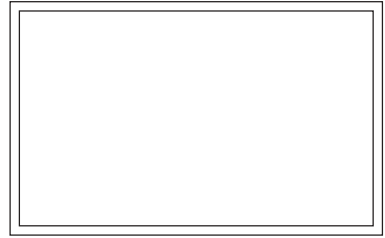
Canada



Canal Zone



Cape Verde



Cayman Islands



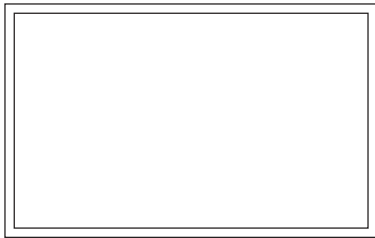
Central Africa



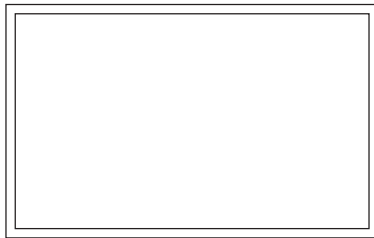
Ceylon



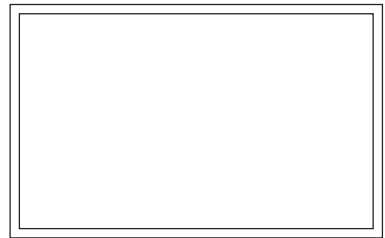
Chad



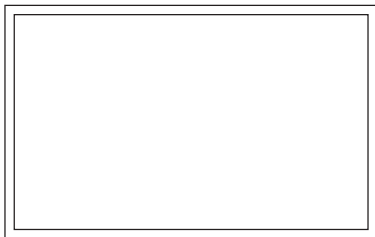
Chile



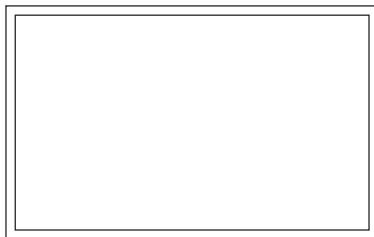
Republic of China



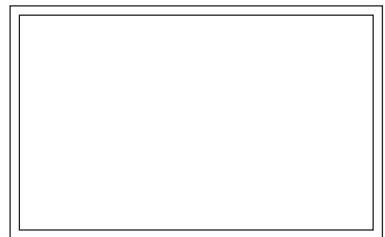
China- People's Republic



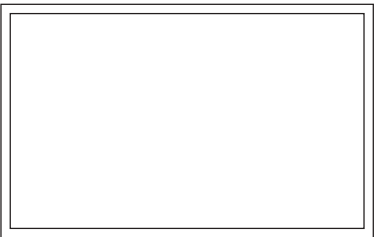
Christmas Island



Cocos Islands



Colombia



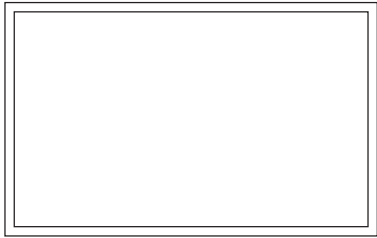
Comoro Islands



Congo People's Republic



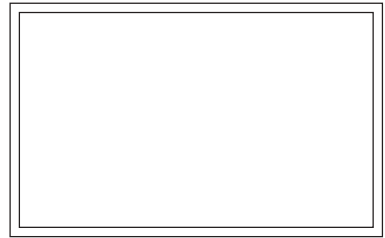
Cooks Island



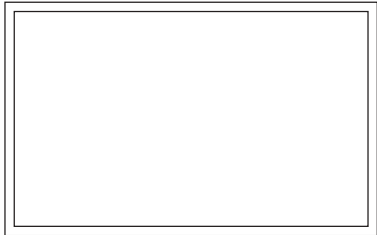
Costa Rica



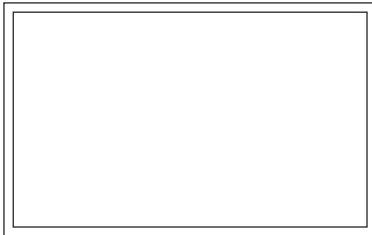
Cuba



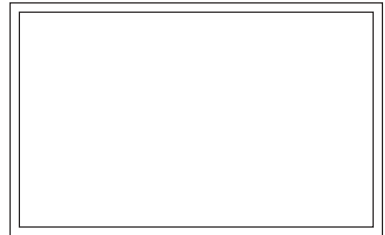
Cyprus



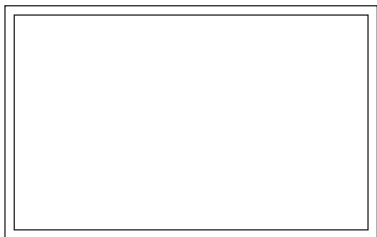
Czechoslovakia



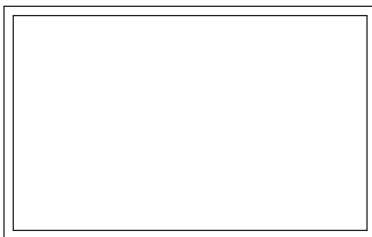
Dahomey



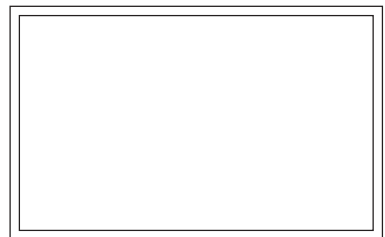
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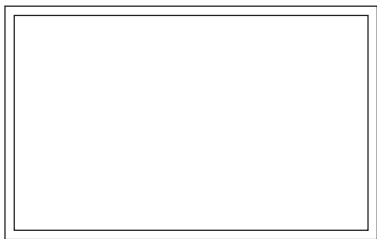
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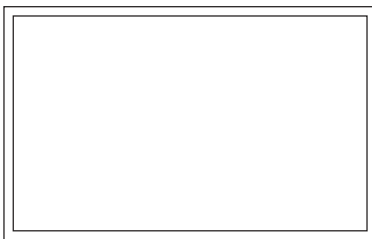
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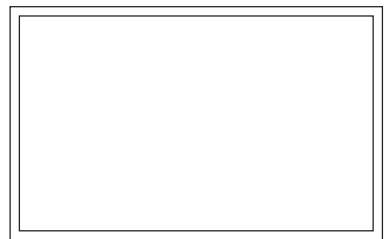
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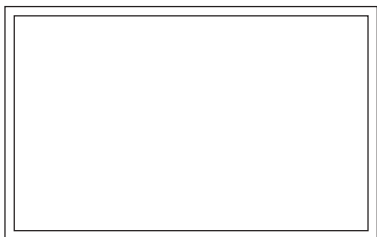
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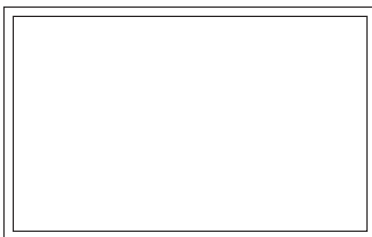
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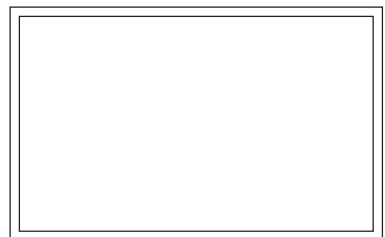
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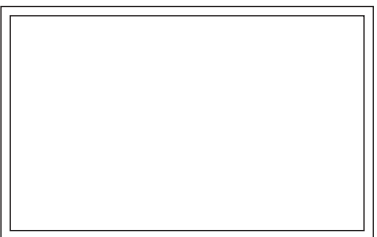
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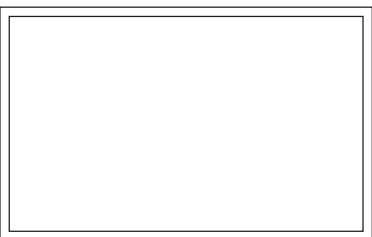
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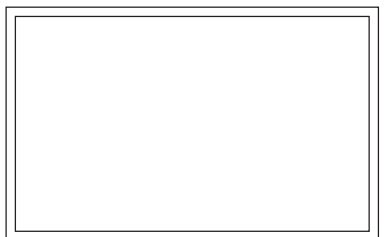
France



Gabon



Gambia



Germany



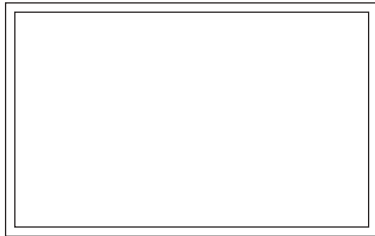
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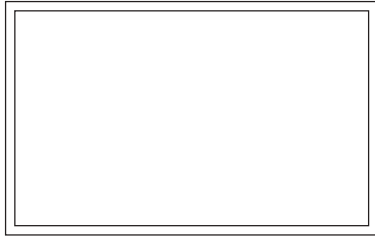
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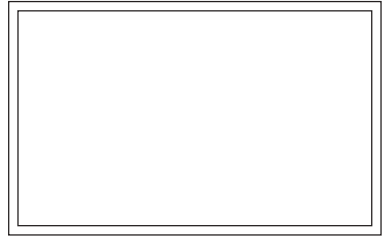
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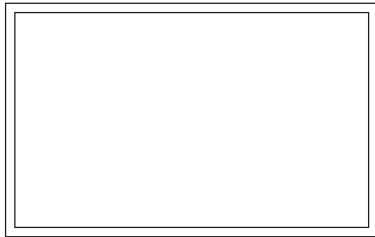
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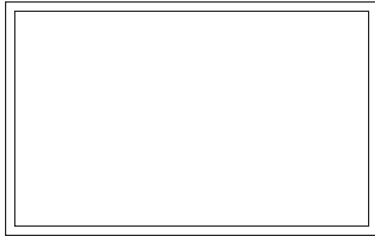
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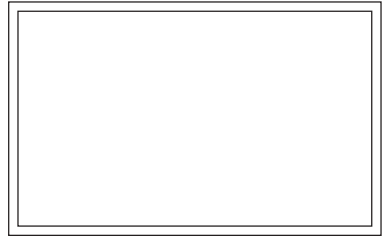
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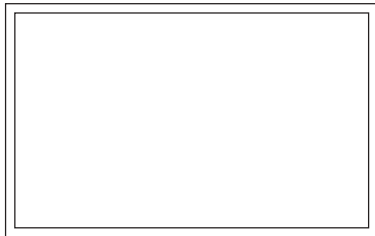
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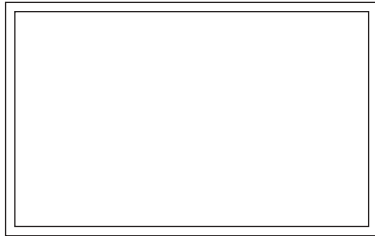
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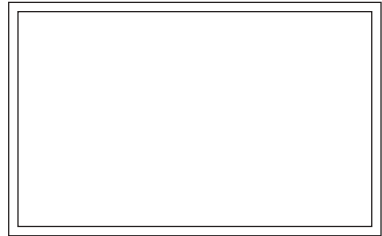
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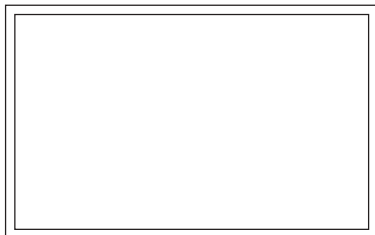
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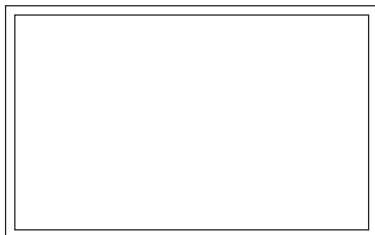
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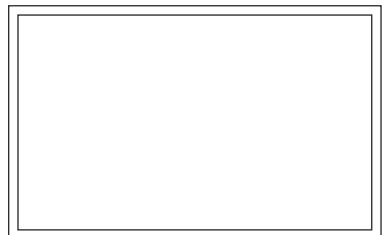
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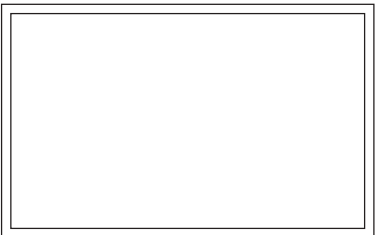
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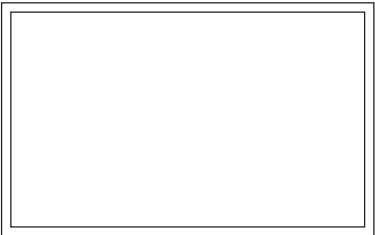
Honduras



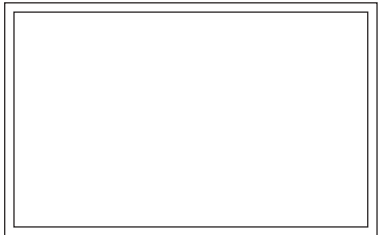
Hong Kong



Hungary



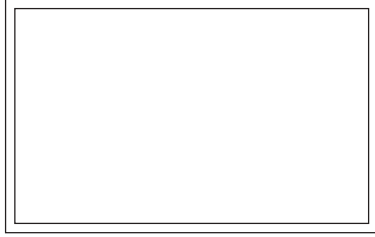
Iceland



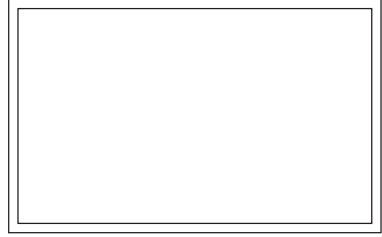
India



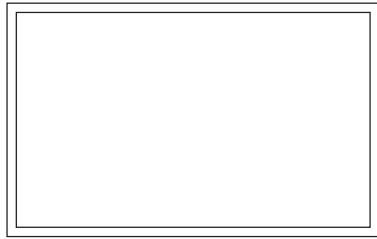
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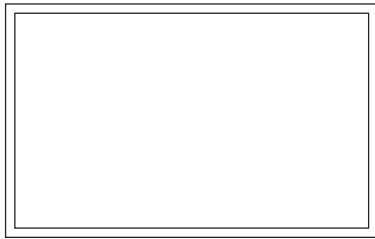
Iran



Iraq



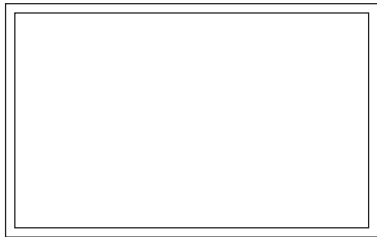
Ireland



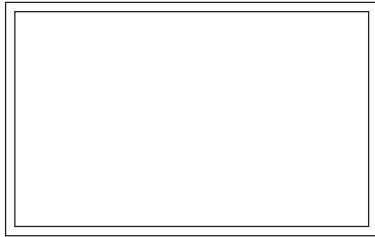
Isle of Man



Israel



Italy



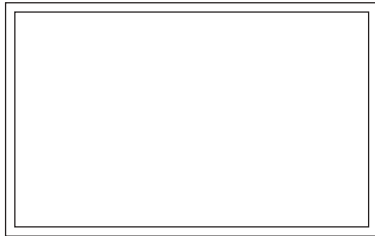
Ivory Coast



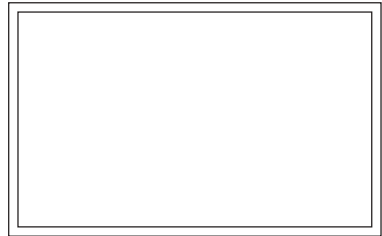
Jamaica



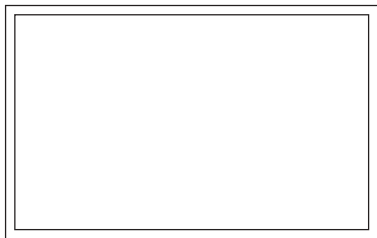
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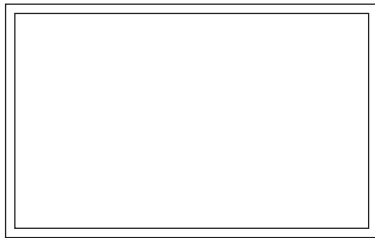
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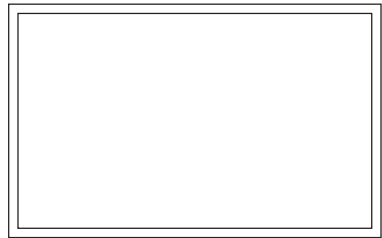
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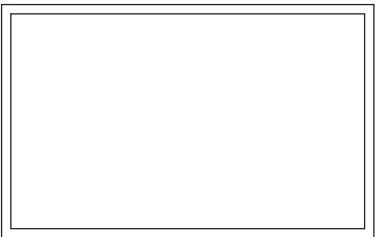
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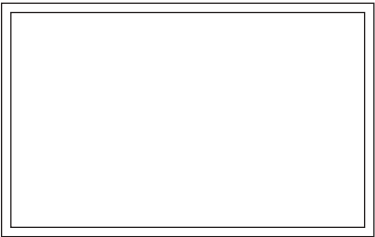
Korea



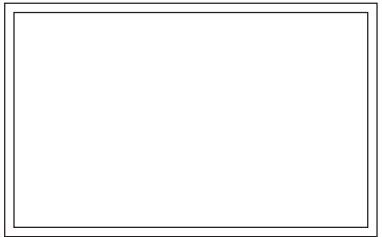
Kuwait



Laos



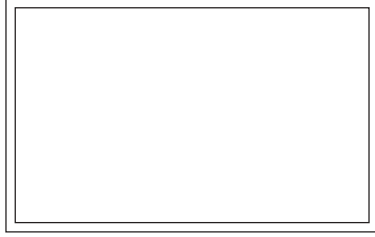
Kenya



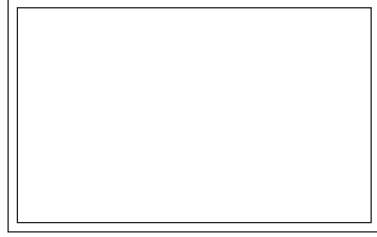
Lebanon



Lesotho



Liberia



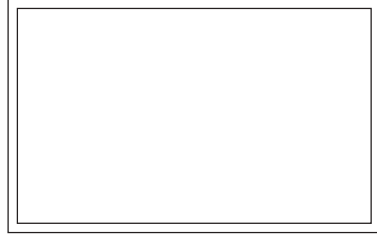
Libya



Liechtenstein



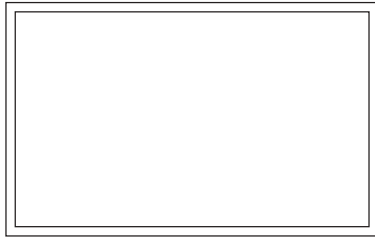
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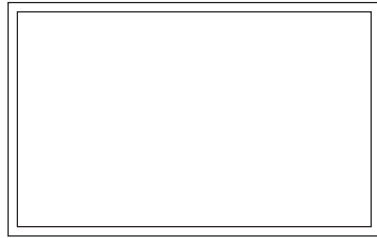
Luxembourg



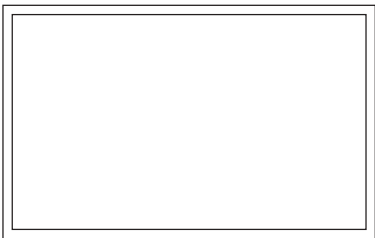
Macao



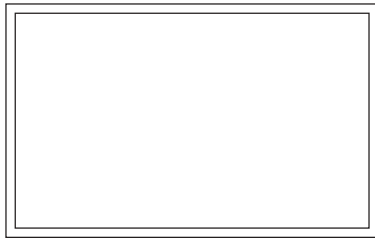
Madagascar



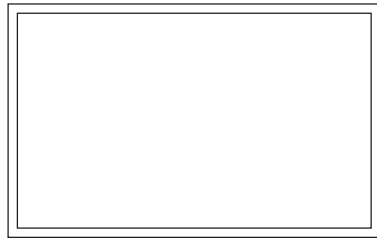
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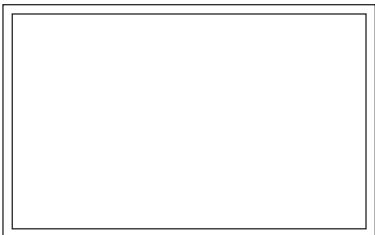
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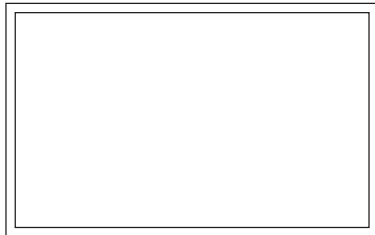
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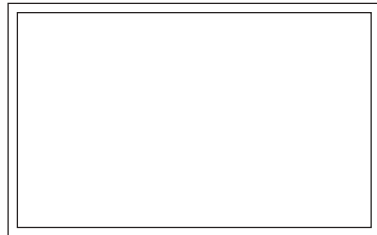
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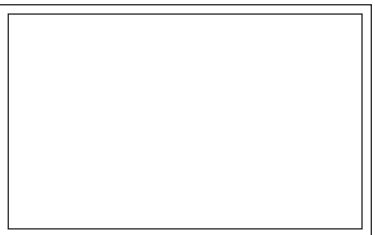
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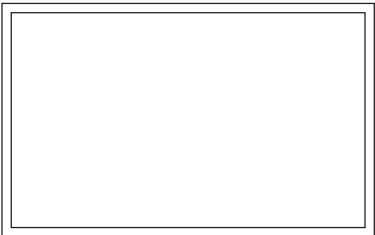
Marshall Islands



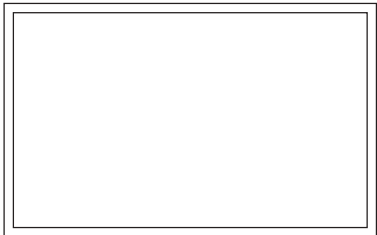
Mauritius



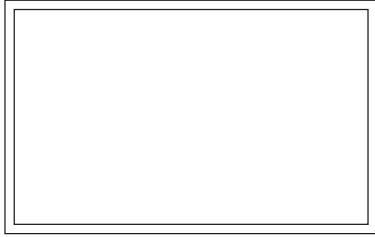
Mauritania



Mexico



Monaco



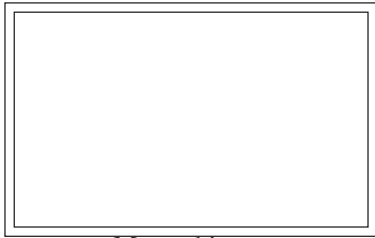
Mongolia



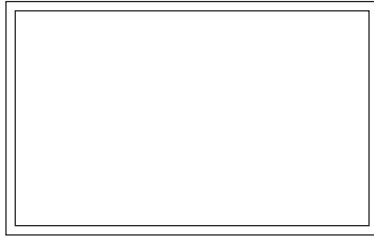
Montserrat



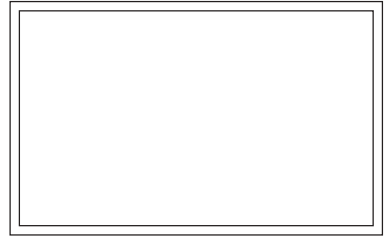
Morocco



Mozambique



Nauru



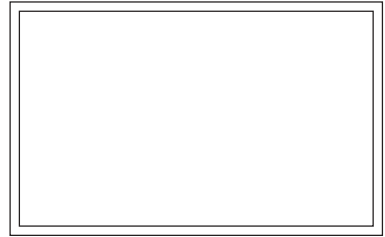
Nepal



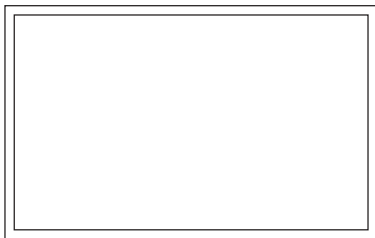
Netherlands



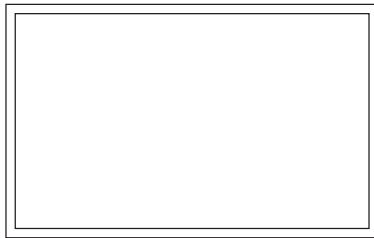
Netherlands Antilles



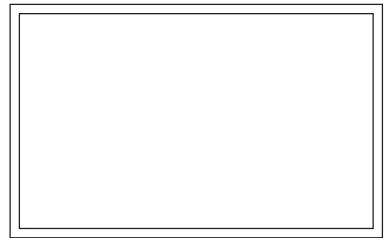
New Caledonia



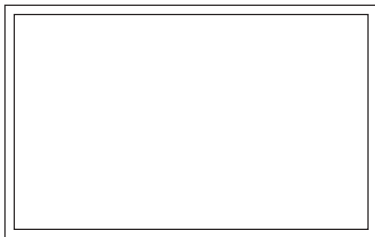
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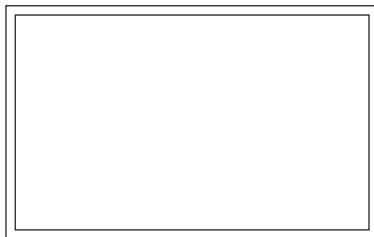
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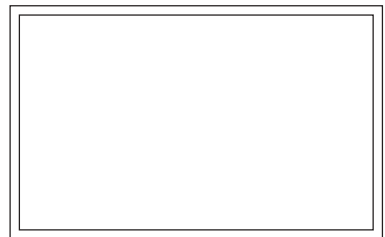
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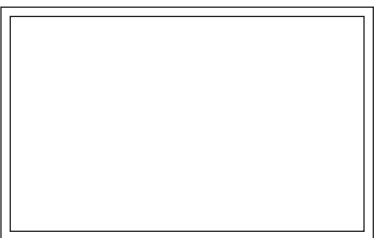
Niger



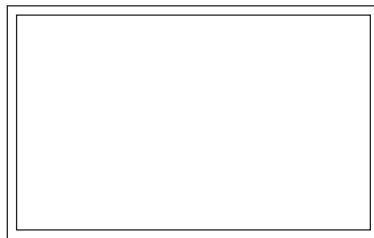
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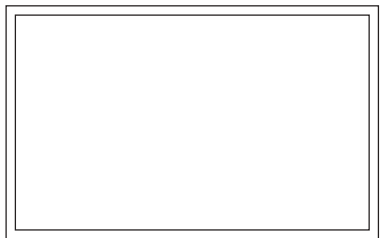
Norway



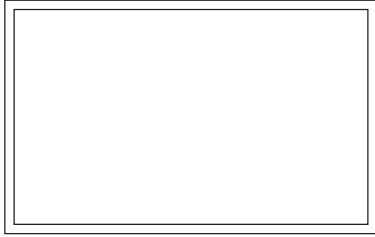
Oman



Pakistan



Palau



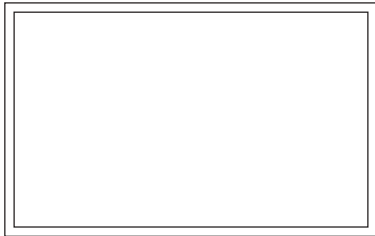
Panama



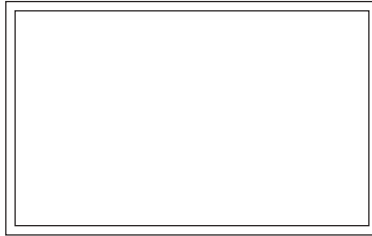
Papua New Guinea



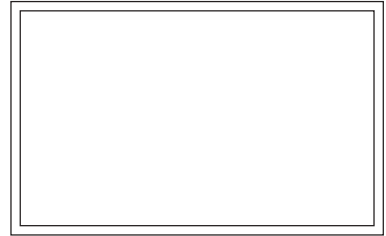
Paraguay



Peru



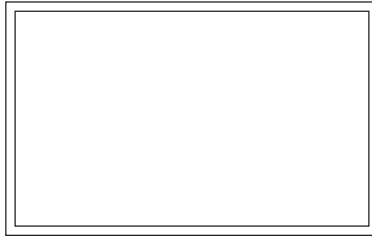
Philippines



Pitcairn Islands



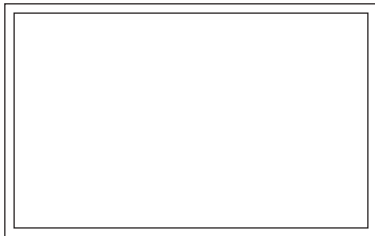
Poland



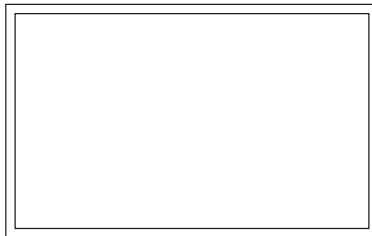
Portugal



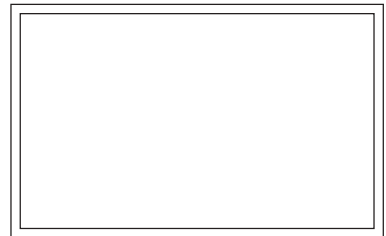
Puerto Rico



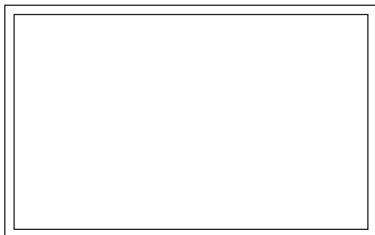
Qatar



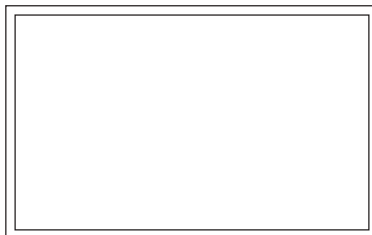
Romania



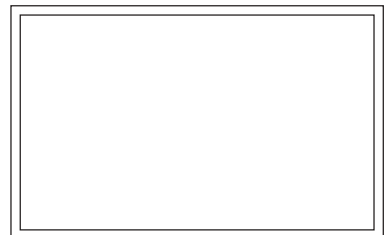
Russia



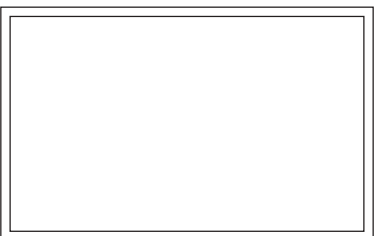
Rwanda



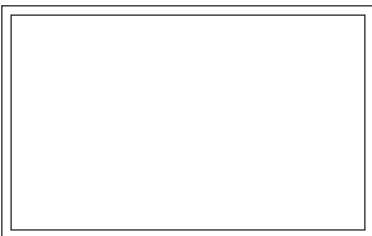
El Salvador



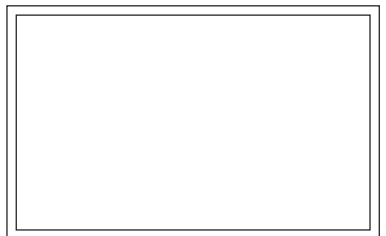
St. Helena



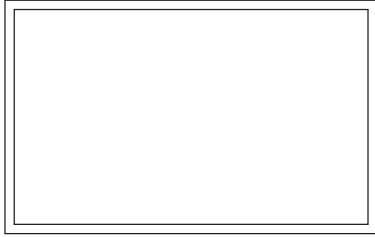
San Marino



St. Thomas & Prince Island



Samoa



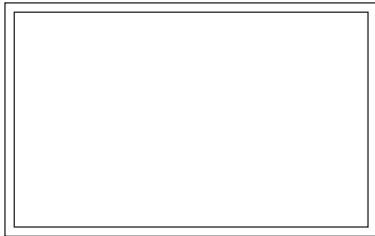
Saudi Arabia



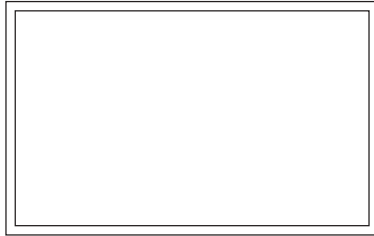
Senegal



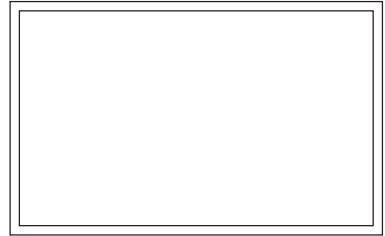
Seychelles



Sierra Leone



Singapore



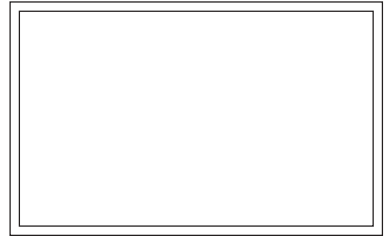
Solomon Islands



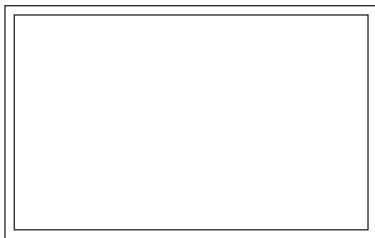
South Africa



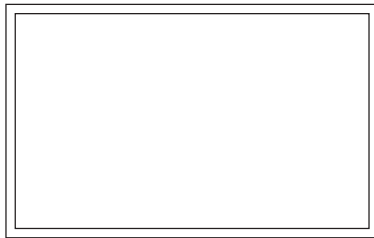
Spain



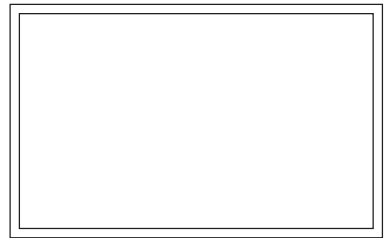
Sri Lanka



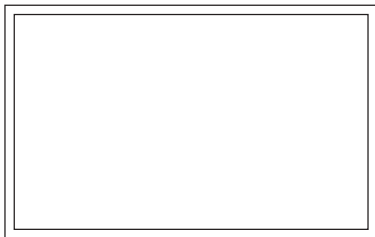
St. Lucia



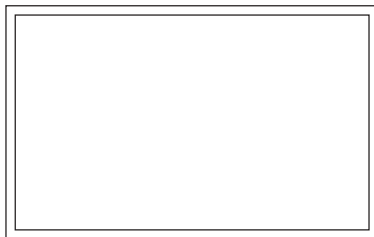
St. Vincent



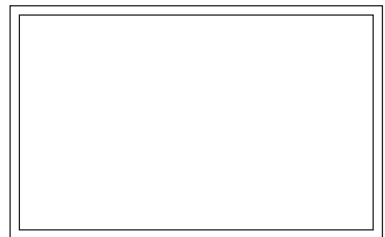
Sudan



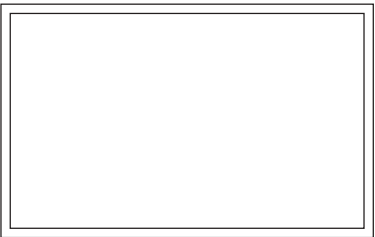
Surinam



Swaziland



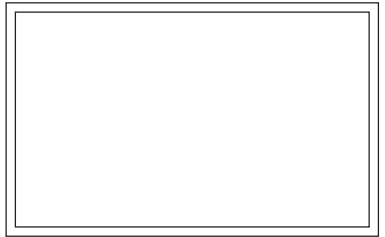
Sweden



Switzerland



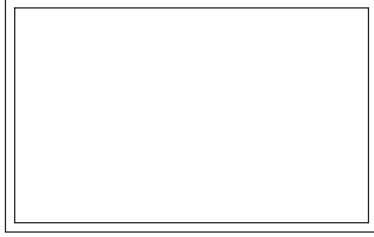
Syria



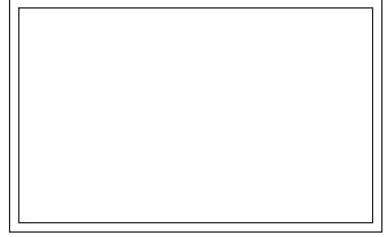
Tanzania



Thailand



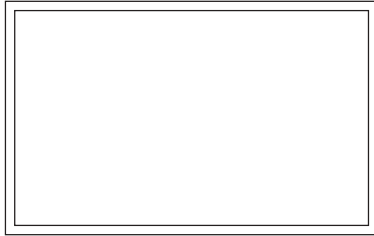
Togo



Tonga



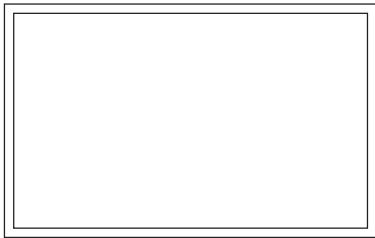
Trinidad & Tobago



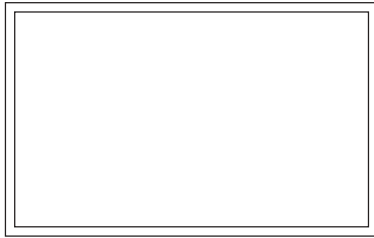
Tunisia



Turkey



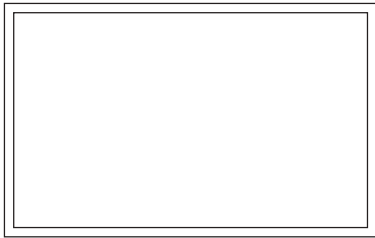
Turks & Caicos Islands



Tuvalu



Uganda



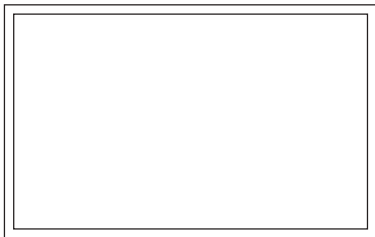
United Nations



United Arab Emirates



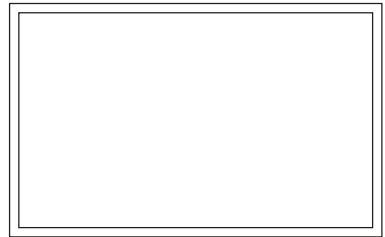
Uruguay



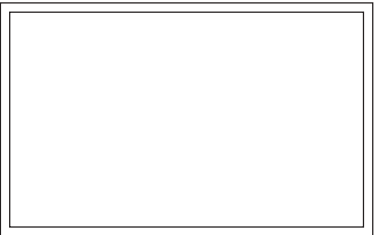
United States



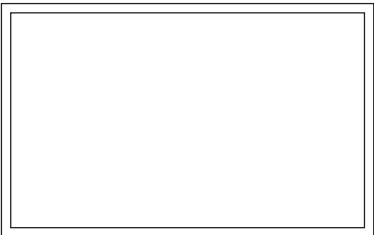
Vanuatu



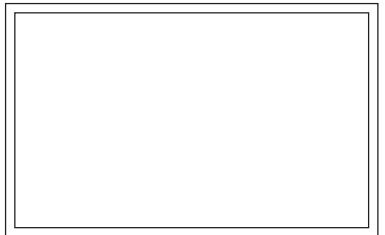
Vatican City



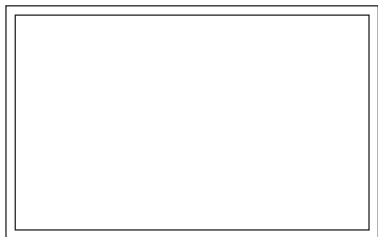
Venezuela



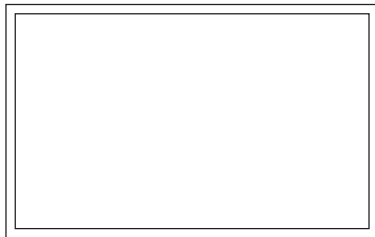
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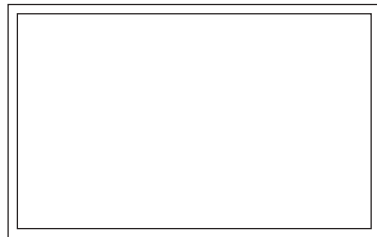
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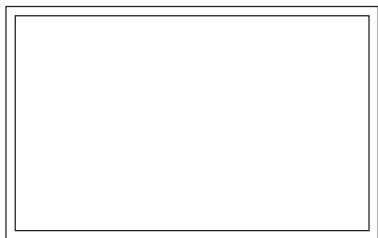
Virgin Islands



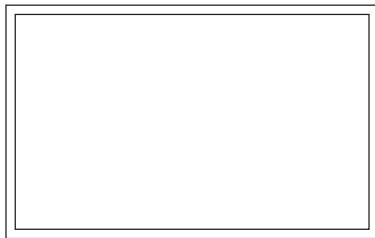
Wallis & Futuna Islands



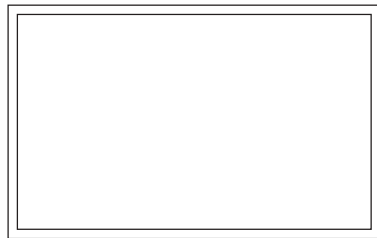
Yeman



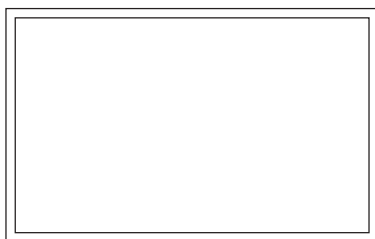
Yugoslavia



Zaire



Zambia



Zimbabwe

Well, that's it. "Our" adventure has ended, but hopefully yours has just begun. I hope you've enjoyed this challenge as much as I have. You may want to consider joining a stamp club in your local area. Subscribe to some stamp journals. Use the internet. Try internet newsgroups. . .

"May the joy of stamp collecting be bountiful and pleasing in your new hobby of philately!!!"
Clyde

Philatelic Glossary

Adhesive: A postage stamp created to attach on a letter or other postal mail.

Aerophilately: The collecting and studying of Airmail Stamps.

Airmails: Stamps that were created specifically for air mail letters.

Approvals: Stamps sent to customers by dealers and other collectors on a honesty policy. You the customer looks through the stamps, chooses the ones you want and sends the rest back with payment for the ones you're keeping.

Booklet Pane: A single sheet from a small booklet that has been packaged for convenience. Usually 6 or 8 or 10 stamps per pane, sometimes more.

Block: Usually four stamps still attached from a sheet.

Cancellation: A mark on the face of the stamp that prevents the stamp from being used again.

Centering: The graphic image's location on the stamps face. Perfect centering has equal spacing all around the graphic. Stamps issued in a continuous strand. The stamps have 2 parallel straight edges. Two types of Coils, vertical and a horizontal.

Coil Line Pairs: Two stamps that have a line through the perforations that join them.

Commemorative: Stamps that are created for the purpose of honoring a special event, person, or topic. These stamps are sold for a short time only.

Condition: The quality of the stamp. Centering, gum and color to name a few.

C.T.O.: "Cancelled to Order" are stamps that performed no postal duty but were cancelled postally.

Definitives: Small sized stamps that are of a regular issue. These stamps will be on the market for several years.

Die: A metal plate that holds the engraved/etched image. Ink is applied to this die and pressed onto the paper stamp.

Errors: Stamps that have accidental mistakes in color, perforations, design, image locations.

Face Value: The value printed on the stamp.

F.D.C.: "First Day Cover" is an envelope with the stamp cancelled with the day the stamp was first issued. A "Cacheted" F.D.C. has art work relating to the stamp that appears on the envelope.

Freak: A production stamp gone askew. Ink smudges, mis-perfs, wrong cuttings.

Grill: A method of breaking the surface of a stamp with small pyramid embossing so the cancellation ink can penetrate the paper preventing cleaning of the stamp for re-use.

Gum: The adhesive used on the back of stamps.

Gum Breakers: Small missing strips of gum on the back of stamps to prevent stamps from curling.

Gutter Pair: A pair or set of un-perforated stamps with the white space still intact. Gutters separates sheets into panes.

Hinge: Small gummed piece of paper attached to back of stamp then into your album.

Hunting Permit Stamp: A stamp issued for the support of Federal Government waterfowl program. Started in 1934.

Imperforated Stamp: A stamp that must be release from adjoining stamps by cutting instead of tearing perforations.

Invert: Any image placed on a stamp that is upside down.

Mint: Any stamp in the same condition as it was bought from the post office.

Mint Sheet: A full sheet of stamps in the same condition as it was bought from the post office.

Official Stamps: Special stamps used by various arms of the government.

Overprint: Any design or printing added to the original design or printing of the stamp.

Pane: A separated group of stamps from a larger sheet of stamps. A smaller equal division of a larger amount.

Parcel Post Stamp: Stamps made for postal items weight more that 16 ounces.

Perf Number: The amount of holes in a perforation that occurs in 2 centimeters.

Perforation: Holes punched into stamps for easy separation.

Philately: The study and collections of postal items.

Plate: The metal support used for the printing of stamps.

Plate Block: The series number of the sheet of stamps left attached to a block of four stamps.

Postage Due Stamps: The stamps are now obsolete. They were placed upon mail that didn't have the correct postage affixed to it.

Postal Stationary: Any postal item, envelopes, cards aerogrammes with the printed stamps already upon them.

Postmark: The mark on a stamps showing where and when the item was mailed.

Precancel: Any stamp that has a cancellation already marked upon it.

Regular Issue: Usually a small stamp that runs for a number of years. These are also know as "Definitives."

Revenue Stamps: A stamp that showed that tax was paid on the item.

Selvage: The border or white space found around stamps. Sometimes this is the gutter that is found between two imperforated stamps.

Series: Stamps that have the same subject or theme that are added to over a number of years.

Set: A complete "Series" of stamps issued.

Se-Tenant: Two or more stamps that are different but attached to each other.

Souvenir Sheet: A group of stamps that all relate to each other with a border of information that explains why they are all joined together.

Special Delivery: A stamp that shows a certain additional amount of money was paid for immediate delivery.

Stock Book: A book that is designed to accept stamps for storage.

Strip: Three or more stamps attached either vertically or horizontally.

Thin: An area on the back of the stamp that has been removed accidentally by removal from the original envelope or by a hinge tearing away part of the original stamp.

Tongs: An item similar to tweezers, but specifically made to handle stamps without touching them.

Topicals: Stamps that all have the same subject. All airplanes, flowers, frogs, Christmas, etc.

Unused Stamp: Stamps that have never been used for postage. Sometimes these stamps will have hinge marks and be light in gum from hinge attachment.

Watermark: A pattern that is placed in the paper of the stamp before the stamp is actually printed upon the paper.

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(Author's note: The heart of Stamp Collecting Challenge" ©1999-2000 C.E.Bowman III, was inspired by this looseleaf 8.5" x 11" photocopied handout. Expansion of the main idea and theme is what I attempted. Months later I have this publication.

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